ESSAYS

[illegible]

OF

Sir FRANCIS BACON,

Lord Verulam, Viscount St. Alban.

With a TABLE of the Colours

OF

Good and Evil.

Wherunto is added

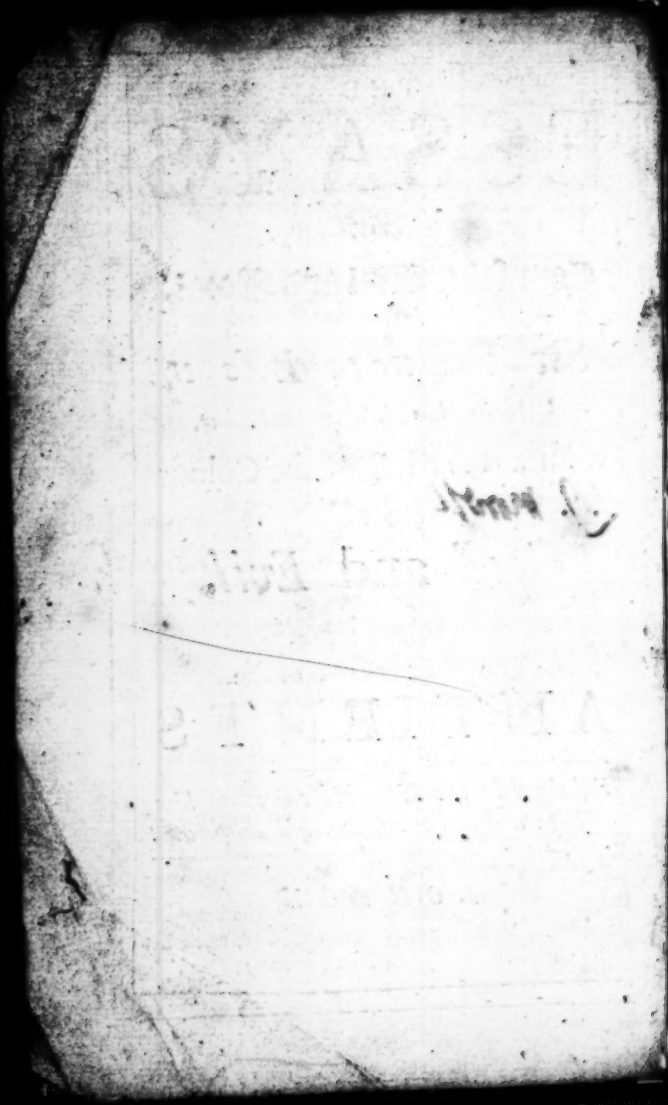
The WISDOM of the

ANTIENTS

Enlarged by the Honourable Author himself; and now more Exactly Published.

LONDON,

Sold by James Knapton, at the Crown in St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1691.



TO THE

Right Honourable my very good Lord,

THE

Duke of *Buckingham* His Grace,

LORD HIGH-ADMIRAL

OF

ENGLAND.

Excellent Lord,

SOLOMON *says*, A Good Name is a precious Oyntment; *and, I assure my self, such will Your Graces Name be with Posterity; for your* Fortune *and* Merit, *both have been Eminent; and You have planted things that are like to last. I do now publish my* Essays; *which, of all my other* Works, *have been most current: For that, as it seems, they come home to Mens* Business, *and* Bosoms.

I have enlarged them both in Number *and* Weight; *so that they are indeed a* New work. *I thought it therefore agreeable to my Affection, and Obligation to* Your Grace, *to prefix your Name before them, both in* English *and* Latine: *For I do conceive, that the* Latine *Volume of them, (being in the* Universal Language) *may last as long as* Books *last. My* Instauration *I Dedicated to the* King; *my* History *of* Henry *the Seventh (which I have now also translated into* Latine) *and my* Portions *of* Natural History *to the* Prince. *And these I Dedicate to* Your Grace, *being of the best* Fruits, *that, by the good increase which* God *gives to my Pen and Labours, I could yield.* God *lead* Your Grace *by the hand.*

Your Graces most obliged
and Faithful Servant,

Fr. St. ALBAN

Elogies on the Illustrious Author.

Ben. Johnson, in his *Discoveries*, p. 101.

THERE happened in my time, one Noble Speaker [Lord *Verulam*] who was full of gravity in his speaking. His language (where he could spare or pass by a jest) was nobly censorious. No man ever spake more neatly, more pressly, more weightily, or suffered less emptiness, less idleness in what he uttered. No member of his Speech but consisted of the own graces. His Hearers could not cough or look aside from him without loss. He commanded where he spoke; and had his Judges angry and pleased at his devotion. No man had their affections more in his power. The fear of every man that heard him, was, lest he should make an end. *And afterwards*, Lord *Egerton*, the Chancellor, a great and grave Orator, *&c.* But his learned and able, (though unfortunate) Successor, [Lord *Bacon*] is he, who hath filled up all members, and performed that in our tongue, which may be compar'd or prefer'd, either to insolent *Greece* or haughty *Rome*. In short, within his view, and about his times, were all the Wits born, that could honour a language or help study. Now things daily fall; Wits grow downward, and Eloquence goes backward: So that he may be nam'd and stand as the mark and *ἀκμὴ* of our Language.

And

And a little after, My conceit of his Person was never increaſed toward him, by his place or honours. But I have and do reverence him for the greatneſs that was only proper to himſelf, in that he ſeem'd to the ever by his work, one of the greateſt men, and moſt worthy of admiration, that had been in many Ages. In his Adverſity I ever prayed, that God would give him ſtrength, for greatneſs he could not want. Neither could I condole in a word or ſyllable for him; as knowing no Accident could do harm to Vertue, but rather help to make it manifeſt.

A. Cowley, in his Poem to the Royal Society, after ſome reflections upon the State of *Philoſophy* aforetime, goes on.

SOme few exalted Spirits this latter Age has ſhown,
That labour'd to aſſert the Liberty
(From Guardians, who were now Uſurpers grown)
Of this Old Minor *ſtill, Captiv'd Philoſophy;*
But 'twas Rebellion call'd to fight
For ſuch a long oppreſſed Right.
BACON *at laſt, a mighty Man, aroſe,*
Whom a wiſe King and Nature choſe
Lord Chancellor of both their Laws,
And boldly undertook the injur'd Pupils cauſe.

III.

Authority, which did a Body boaſt,
Though 'twas but Air condens'd, and ſtalk'd about,
Like ſome old Giants more Gigantic Ghoſt;
To terrifie the Learned Rout
With the plain Magick of true Reaſons Light,
He chac'd out of our ſight, Nor

Nor suffer'd Living Men to be misled
By the vain shadows of the Dead: (fled;
To Graves from whence it rose, the conquer'd Phantome
He broke that Monstrous God which stood
In midst of th' Orchard, and the whole did claim,
Which with a useless Sith of Wood,
And something else not worth a name,
(Both vast for shew, yet neither fit
Or to Defend, or to Beget;
Ridiculous and senceless Terrors!) made
Children and superstitious Men afraid.
The Orchard's open now, and free;
BACON *has broke that Scare-crow Deity;*
Come, enter, all that will,
Behold the rip'ned Fruit, come gather now your fill.
Yet still, methinks, we fain would be
Catching at the Forbidden Tree,
We would be like the Deitie,
When Truth and Falshood, Good and Evil, we
Without the Sences aid within our selves would see;
For 'tis God only who can find
All Nature in his Mind.

IV.

From Words, which are but Pictures of the Thought,
(Though we our Thoughts from them perversly drew)
To Things, the Minds right Object, he it brought,
Like foolish Birds to painted Grapes we flew;
He sought and gather'd for our use the True;
And when on heaps the choosen Bunches lay,
He prest them wisely the Mechanic way,
Till all their juyce did in one Vessel joyn,
Ferment into a Nourishment Divine,
The thirsty Souls refreshing Wine. *Who*

Who to the Life an exact Piece would make,
Muſt not from other Work a Copy take;
No, not from Rubens *or* Vandike;
Much leſs contrive himſelf to make it like
Th' Ideas and the Images which lye
In his own Fancy, or his Memory.
No, he before his ſight muſt place
The Natural and Living Face;
The real Object muſt command
Each Judgment of his Eye, and Motion of his Hand.

V.

From theſe long Errors of the way,
In which our wandring Predeceſſors went,
And like th' old Hebrews *many years did ſtray*
In Deſarts but of ſmall extent,
BACON, *like* Moſes, *led us forth at laſt,*
The barren Wilderneſs he paſt,
Did on the very Border ſtand,
Of the bleſt promis'd Land,
And from the Mountains Top of his Exalted Wit,
Saw it himſelf, and ſhew'd us it.
But Life did never to one Man allow
Time to Diſcover Worlds, and Conquer too;
Nor can ſo ſhort a Line ſufficient be
To fathom the vaſt depths of Natures Sea:
The work he did we ought t'admire,
And were unjuſt if we ſhould more require
From his few years, divided 'twixt th' Exceſs
Of low Affliction, and high Happineſs:
For who on things remote can fix his ſight,
That's always in a Triumph, or a Fight?

A. Cowley.

ESSAYS.

I.

Of Truth.

WHAT is *Truth?* said jesting *Pilate*, and would not stay for an answer. Certainly there be, that delight in giddiness, and count it a Bondage to fix a Belief; affecting free-will in thinking, as well as in acting. And though the Sects of Philosophers of that kind be gone, yet there remain certain discoursing Wits, which are of the same Veins, though there be not so much Blood in them, as was in those of the Antients. But it is not only the difficulty and labour, which men take in finding out of *Truth*; nor again, that when it is found, it imposeth upon mens thoughts, that doth bring *Lies* in favour; but a natural, though corrupt Love, of the *Lie* it self. One of the later Schools of the *Grecians* examineth the matter, and is at a stand, to think what should be in it, that Men should love *Lies*; where neither they make for pleasure, as with Poets, nor

for Advantage, as with the Merchant, but for the *Lies* sake. But I cannot tell. This same *Truth* is a Naked and Open day-light, that doth not shew the Masques, and Mummeries, and Triumphs of the World, half so stately and daintily as Candle-light. *Truth* may perhaps come to the price of a Pearl, that sheweth best by day; but it will not rise to the price of a Diamond or Carbuncle, that sheweth best in varied Lights. A mixture of a *Lie* doth ever add pleasure. Doth any man doubt, that if there were taken out of Mens minds vain Opinions, flattering Hopes, false Valuations, Imaginations as one would, and the like; but it would leave the minds of a number of Men, poor shrunken things, full of melancholy and indisposition, and unpleasing to themselves? One of the Fathers in great severity called Poesie, *Vinum Dæmonum*, because it filleth the Imagination, and yet it is but with the shadow of a *Lie*. But it is not the *Lie* that passeth through the mind, but the *Lie* that sinketh in, and settleth in it, that doth the hurt, such as we spake of before. But howsoever these things are thus in Mens depraved judgments and affections; yet *Truth*, which only doth judge it self, teacheth, that the enquiry of *Truth*, which is the love-making, or wooing of it: the knowledge of *Truth*, which is the presence of it: and the belief of *Truth*, which is the enjoying of it, is the sovereign good of Human Nature. The first Creature of God in the works of the Days, was the light of the Sense; the last was the light of Reason;

Reason; and his Sabbath-Work ever since, is the illumination of his Spirit. First, he breathed light upon the face of the Matter or Chaos; then he breathed light into the face of Man; and still he breatheth and inspireth light into the face of his Chosen. The Poet that beautified the Sect, that was otherwise inferiour to the rest, saith yet excellently well: *It is a pleasure to stand upon the shore, and to see Ships tost upon the Sea; a pleasure to stand in the Window of a Castle, and to see a Battel, and the adventure thereof below: but no pleasure is comparable to the standing upon the vantage-ground of Truth*: (an Hill not to be commanded, and where the Air is always clear and serene:) *and to see the Errors, and Wanderings, and Mists, and Tempests in the Vale below*: So always that this prospect be with Pity, and not with swelling or Pride. Certainly it is Heaven upon Earth, to have a Mans mind move in Charity, rest in Providence, and turn upon the Poles of *Truth*.

To pass from Theological and Philosophical *Truth*, to the *Truth* of Civil business, it will be acknowledged, even by those that practise it not, that clear and round dealing is the honour of Mans nature, and that mixture of falshood is like allay in Coin of Gold and Silver, which may make the Metal work the better, but it embaseth it. For these winding and crooked courses are the goings of the Serpent, which goeth basely upon the Belly, and not upon the feet. There is no Vice that doth so cover a Man with shame, as

to be found false and perfidious. And therefore *Montaigne* ſaith prettily, when he enquired the reaſon, Why the word of the *Lie* ſhould be ſuch a diſgrace, and ſuch an odious charge: Saith he, *If it be well weighed, To ſay that a Man lieth, is as much as to ſay, that he is a Brave towards God, and a Coward towards Men.* For a *Lie* faces God, and ſhrinks from Man. Surely the wickedneſs of Falſhood, and breach of Faith, cannot poſſibly be ſo highly expreſſed, as in that it ſhall be the laſt Peal, to call the Judgments of God upon the Generations of Men, it being foretold, that when Chriſt cometh, *He ſhall not find faith upon the Earth.*

II.

Of Death.

MEN fear *Death*, as Children fear to go in the dark: And as that natural fear in Children is increaſed with Tales, ſo is the other. Certainly the contemplation of *Death*, as the *wages of ſin*, and paſſage to another World, is Holy and Religious; but the fear of it, as a tribute due unto Nature, is weak. Yet in Religious Meditations, there is ſometimes mixture of vanity and ſuperſtition. You ſhall read in ſome of the Friers Books of *Mortification*, that a Man ſhould think with himſelf, what the pain is, if he have but his fingers end preſſed or tortured,

and

and thereby imagin what the pains of *Death* are, when the whole body is corrupted and dissolved; when many times *Death* passeth with less pain, than the torture of a Limb: For the most Vital parts are not the quickest of sense. And by him that spake only as a Philosopher, and natural man, it was well said; *Pompa mortis magis terret, quam Mors ipsa*. Groans, and Convulsions, and discoloured Face, and Friends weeping, and Blacks, and Obsequies, and the like, shew *Death* terrible. It is worthy the observing, that there is no passion in the mind of Man so weak, but it mates and masters the fear of *Death*: and therefore *Death* is no such terrible Enemy, when a Man hath so many attendants about him, that can win the combat of him. *Revenge* triumphs over *Death*; *Love* slights it; *Honour* aspireth to it; *Grief* flieth to it; *Fear* pre-occupateth it: Nay we read, after *Otho* the Emperor had slain himself, *Pity* (which is the tenderest of Affections) provoked many to die, out of meer compassion to their Soveraign, and as the truest sort of Followers. Nay, *Seneca* adds *Niceness* and *Satiety*; *Cogita quandiu eadem facere; Mori velle, non tantum Fortis, aut Miser, sed etiam Fastidiosus potest*. A man would die, though he were neither valiant nor miserable, only upon a weariness to do the same thing so oft over and over. It is no less worthy to observe, how little alteration in good Spirits the approaches of *Death* make. For they appear to be the same Men till the last instant. *Augustus Cæsar* died in a compliment; *Livia*,

Livia, Conjugii nostri memor, vive, & vale. Tiberius in Dissimulation, as *Tacitus* saith of him; *Jam Tiberium Vires, & Corpus, non Dissimulatio deserebant. Vespasian* in a jest, sitting upon the stool; *Ut puto, Deus fio. Galba* with a Sentence; *Feri, si ex re sit populi Romani*, holding forth his neck. *Septimius Severus* in dispatch; *Adeste, si quid mihi restat agendum.* And the like. Certainly the *Stoicks* bestowed too much cost upon *Death*, and by their great preparations made it appear more fearful. *Better*, saith he, *Qui finem vitæ extremum inter munera ponat Naturæ.* It is as natural to die, as to be born; and to a little infant perhaps the one is as painful as the other. He that dies in an earnest pursuit, is like one that is wounded in hot blood, who for the time scarce feels the hurt; and therefore a mind fixt, and bent upon somewhat that is good, doth avert the dolours of *Death*. But above all, believe it, the sweetest Canticle is, *Nunc dimittis*, when a Man hath obtained worthy ends and expectations. *Death* hath this also; that it openeth the Gate to good Fame, and extinguisheth Envy.

——Extinctus amabitur idem.

III.

Of Unity in Religion.

Religion being the chief band of Human Society, it is a happy thing when it self is well

well contained within the true band of *Unity*. The Quarrels and Divisions about *Religion* were Evils unknown to the Heathen. The reason was, because the Religion of the Heathen consisted rather in Rites and Ceremonies, than in any constant belief. For you may imagine what kind of Faith theirs was, when the chief Doctors and Fathers of their Church were Poets. But the true God hath this Attribute, that he is a *jealous* God, and therefore his Worship and *Religion* will endure no mixture nor *Partner*. We shall therefore speak a few words concerning the *Unity* of the *Church*; *What are the Fruits thereof, what the Bonds, and what the Means.*

The Fruits of Unity (next unto the well-pleasing of God, which is All in All) are two; the one towards those that are *without the Church*, the other towards those that are *within*. For the former: It is certain, that Heresies and Schisms are of all others the greatest Scandals, yea, more than corruption of Manners. For as in the Natural Body, a Wound or Solution of continuity, is worse than a corrupt Humour; so in the Spiritual. So that nothing doth so much keep Men out of the Church, and drive them out of the Church, as breach of *Unity*. And therefore whensoever it cometh to that pass, that one saith, *Ecce in deserto*, another saith, *Ecce in penetralibus*; that is, when some Men seek Christ in the Conventicles of Heretics, and others in an outward face of a Church, that Voice had need continually to sound in Mens Ears, *Nolite exire*, *Go not*

out. The Doctor of the Gentiles (the propriety of whose vocation drew him to have a special care of those *without*) saith, *If an Heathen come in and hear you speak with several Tongues, will he not say that you are mad?* And certainly it is little better, when Atheists and prophane persons do hear of so many discordant and contrary Opinions in *Religion*, it doth avert them from the Church, and maketh them *to sit down in the Chair of the Scorners.* It is but a light thing to be vouched in so serious a matter, but yet it expresseth well the deformity. There is a Master of Scoffing, that in his Catalogue of Books of a feigned Library, sets down this Title of a Book, *The Morrice-dance of Hereticks.* For indeed every Sect of them hath a diverse posture, or cringe by themselves, which cannot but move derision in Worldlings, and depraved Politicks who are apt to contemn holy things.

As for the *Fruit towards those that are within.* It is *Peace*, which containeth infinite Blessings; it establisheth Faith; it kindleth Charity; the outward peace of the Church distilleth into peace of Conscience; and it turneth the Labours of Writing and Reading of Controversies, into Treatises of *Mortification* and *Devotion.*

Concerning the *Bonds of Unity*, the true placing of them importeth exceedingly. There appear to be two extreams. For to certain *Zelots* all speech of pacification is odious. *Is it peace, Jehu? What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me.* *Peace* is not the matter, but *following*

lowing a *party*. Contrariwiſe certain *Laodiceans*, and luke-warm perſons, think they may accommodate points of *Religion* by middle ways, and taking part of both, and witty reconcilements, as if they would make an arbitrement between God and Man. But theſe extreams are to be avoided; which will be done, if the league of Chriſtians, penned by our Saviour himſelf, were in the two croſs clauſes thereof, ſoundly and plainly expounded. *He that is not with us, is againſt us*: And again, *He that is not againſt us, is with us*: That is, if the points Fundamental, and of Subſtance in *Religion*, were truly diſcerned and diſtinguiſhed from points not meerly of Faith, but of Opinion, Order, or good Intention. This is a thing may ſeem to many a matter trivial, and done already; but if it were done leſs partially, it would be embraced more generally.

Of this I may give only this advice, according to my ſmall model: Men ought to take heed of rending God's Church by two kinds of controverſies: The one is, when the matter of the point controverted is too ſmall and light, not worth the heat and ſtrife about it, kindled only by contradiction. For, as it is noted by one of the Fathers, *Chriſt's Coat indeed had no ſeam, but the Churches Veſture was of divers colours*; whereupon he ſaith, *In veſte varietas ſit, ſciſſura non ſit*; they be two things, *Unity* and *Uniformity*. The other is, when the matter of the point controverted is great, but it is driven to an over-great

ſubtilty

subtilty and obscurity, so that it becometh a thing rather ingenious than substantial. A Man that is of judgment and understanding, shall sometimes hear ignorant Men differ, and know well within himself, that those which so differ, mean one thing, and yet they themselves would never agree. And if it come so to pass, in that distance of judgment which is between Man and Man, shall we not think, that God above, that knows the heart, doth not discern that frail Men in some of their contradictions intend the same thing, and accepteth of both? The nature of such controversies is excellently expressed by Saint *Paul*, in the warning and precept that he giveth concerning the same, *Devita profanas vocum novitates, & oppositiones falsi nominis scientiæ*; Men create oppositions which are not, and put them into new terms so fixed, as whereas the meaning ought to govern the term, the term in effect governeth the meaning. There be also two false *Peaces*, or *Unities*; the one, when the *Peace* is grounded but upon an implicite ignorance; for all Colours will agree in the dark: the other when it is pieced up upon a direct admission of contraries in Fundamental points. For Truth and Falshood in such things, are like the *Iron* and *Clay in the toes of Nebuchadnezzars Image*, they may cleave, but they will not incorporate.

Concerning the *Means of procuring Unity*; Men must beware, that in the procuring or muniting of *Religious Unity*, they do not dissolve and deface

deface the Laws of Charity, and of Humane Society. There be two Swords amongſt Chriſtians, the Spiritual and Temporal; and both have their due office and place in the maintenance of *Religion*. But we may not take up the third Sword, which is *Mahomets* Sword, or like unto it; that is, to propagate *Religion* by Wars, or by ſanguinary Perſecutions to force Conſciences, except it be in caſes of overt Scandal, blaſphemy or intermixture of practice againſt the State; much leſs to nourish Seditions, to authorize Conſpiracies and Rebellions, to put the Sword into the peoples hands, and the like, tending to the ſubverſion of all Government, which is the Ordinance of God. For this is but to daſh the Firſt Table againſt the Second, and ſo to conſider Men as Chriſtians, as we forget that they are Men. *Lucretius* the Poet, when he beheld the Act of *Agamemnon*, that could endure the ſacrificing of his own Daughter, exclaimed;

Tantum Religio potuit ſuadere malorum.

What would he have ſaid, if he had known of the Maſſacre in *France*, or the Powder-Treaſon of *England*? He would have been ſeven times more Epicure and Atheiſt than he was: For as the Temporal Sword is to be drawn with great circumſpection in caſes of *Religion*; ſo it is a thing monſtrous, to put it into the hands of the common people. Let that be left unto the Anabaptiſts, and other Furies. It was great blaſphemy,

phemy, when the Devil said, *I will ascend, and be like the Highest*; but it is greater blasphemy to personate God, and bring him in, saying, *I will descend and be like the Prince of Darkness*; And what is it better, to make the cause of *Religion* to descend to the cruel and execrable actions of Murthering Princes, Butchery of People, and Subversion of States and Governments? Surely this is to bring down the Holy Ghost, instead of the likeness of a Dove, in the shape of a Vulture or Raven; and to set out of the Bark of a Christian Church, a Flag of a Bark of Pyrates and *Assassins*. Therefore it is most necessary, that the Church by Doctrine and Decree, Princes by their Sword, and all Learnings both Christian and Moral, as by their Mercury Rod, do damn and send to Hell for ever those Facts and Opinions, tending to the support of the same, as hath been already in good part done. Surely in Councils concerning *Religion*, that Counsel of the Apostle would be prefixed, *Ira hominis non implet justitiam Dei.* And it was a notable observation of a wise Father, and no less ingenuously confessed, *That those which held and persuaded pressure of Consciences, were commonly interessed therein themselves for their own ends.*

Of

LV.

Of Revenge.

Revenge is a kind of wild Juſtice; which the more Man's Nature runs to, the more ought Law to weed it out. For as to the firſt wrong, it doth but offend the Law, but the *Revenge* of that wrong putteth the Law out of Office. Certainly in taking *Revenge*, a Man is but even with his Enemy; but in paſſing it over he is ſuperior: for it is a Princes part to pardon. And *Solomon*, I am ſure, ſaith, *It is the Glory of a Man to paſs by an offence.* That which is paſt, is gone, and irrecoverable; and wiſe Men have enough to do with things preſent, and to come: therefore they do but trifle with themſelves, that labour in paſt matters. There is no Man doth a wrong for the wrongs ſake, but thereby to purchaſe himſelf profit, or pleaſure, or honour, or the like. Therefore why ſhould I be angry with a Man for loving himſelf better than me? And if any man ſhould do wrong meerly out of ill nature, why? yet it is but like the Thorn or Bryar, which prick and ſcratch, becauſe they can do no other. The moſt tolerable ſort of *Revenge*, is for thoſe wrongs which there is no Law to remedy: But then let a man take heed, that the *Revenge* be ſuch, as there is no Law to puniſh; elſe a Mans Enemy is ſtill before-hand, and it is two for one.

Some

Some when they take *Revenge*, are desirous the Party should know whence it cometh: this is the more generous. For the delight seemeth to be not so much in doing the hurt, as in making the party repent. But base and crafty Cowards are like the Arrow that flieth in the dark. *Cosmus* Duke of *Florence* had a desperate saying against perfidious or neglecting Friends, as if those wrongs were unpardonable: *You shall read* (saith he) *that we are commanded to forgive our Enemies*; *but you never read, that we are commanded to forgive our Friends.* But yet the Spirit of *Job* was in a better tune; *Shall we* (saith he) *take good at God's hand, and not be content to take evil also?* And so of Friends in a proportion. This is certain, that a Man that studieth *Revenge*, keeps his own wounds green, which otherwise would heal, and do well: *Publick Revenges* are for the most part Fortunate, as that for the death of *Cæsar*, for the death of *Pertinax*, for the death of *Henry* the Third of *France*, and many more. But in private *Revenges* it is not so. Nay, rather vindicative persons live the life of Witches; who as they are mischievous, so end they unfortunate.

V.

Of Adverſity.

IT was an high Speech of *Seneca*, (after the manner of the Stoicks) *That the good things which belong to proſperity are to be wiſhed, but the good things that belong to adverſity are to be admired: Bona rerum ſecundarum optabilia, adverſarum mirabilia.* Certainly, If Miracles be the command over Nature, they appear moſt in *Adverſity*. It is yet a higher ſpeech of his, than the other, (much too high for a Heathen) *It is true greatneſs to have in one the frailty of a Man, and the ſecurity of a God: Vere magnum habere fragilitatem hominis, ſecuritatem Dei.* This would have done better in Poeſie, where tranſcendencies are more allowed. And the Poets indeed have been buſie with it; for it is in effect the thing, which is figured in that ſtrange Fiction of the ancient Poets, which ſeemeth not to be without myſtery; nay, and to have ſome approach to the State of a Chriſtian: That *Hercules, when he went to unbind Prometheus*, (by whom Human Nature is repreſented) *ſailed the length of the great Ocean in an Earthen Pot or Pitcher*; Lively deſcribing Chriſtian reſolution, that ſaileth in the frail Bark of the Fleſh, through the waves of the world. But to ſpeak in a mean: The Vertue of *Proſperity* is Temperance, the Vertue of *Adverſity* is

is Fortitude, which in Morals is the more heroical Vertue. *Prosperity* is the Blessing of the Old Testament, *Adversity* is the Blessing of the New, which carrieth the greater Benediction, and the clearer Revelation of God's favour. Yet even in the Old Testament, if you listen to *David*'s Harp, you shall hear as many Heart-like Ayres, as Carols. And the Pencil of the Holy Ghost hath laboured more in describing the Afflictions of *Job*, than the Felicities of *Solomon*. *Prosperity* is not without many fears and distastes; and *Adversity* is not without comforts and hopes. We see in Needle-works and Embroyderies, it is more pleasing to have a lively work upon a sad and solemn ground, than to have a dark and melancholy Work upon a lightsome ground. Judge therefore of the pleasure of the Heart, by the pleasure of the Eye. Certainly Vertue is like precious Odours, most fragrant when they are incensed or crushed: For *Prosperity* doth best discover Vice, but *Adversity* doth best discover Vertue.

VI.

Of Simulation and Dissimulation.

Dissimulation is but a faint kind of Policy or Wisdom; for it asketh a strong wit and a strong heart, to know when to tell truth, and to do it. Therefore it is the weaker sort of Politicks, that are the great Dissemblers.

Tacitus

Tacitus ſaith, *Livia ſorted well with the Arts of her Husband and Diſſimulation of her Son*; attributing *Arts* or *Policy* to *Auguſtus*, and *Diſſimulation* to *Tiberius*. And again, when *Mucianus* encourageth *Veſpaſian* to take Arms againſt *Vitellius*, he ſaith, *We riſe not againſt the piercing Judgment of* Auguſtus, *nor the extream Caution or Cloſeneſs of* Tiberius. Theſe properties of *Arts*, or *Policy* and *Diſſimulation*, or *Cloſeneſs*, are indeed habits and faculties, ſeveral, and to be diſtinguiſhed. For if a man have that penetration of Judgment, as he can diſcern, what things are to be laid open, and what to be ſecreted, and what to be ſhewed at half lights, and to whom, and when (which indeed are Arts of State, and Arts of Life, as *Tacitus* well calleth them) to him; a habit of *Diſſimulation* is a hindrance, and a poorneſs. But if a Man cannot attain to that Judgment, then it is left to him generally to be Cloſe, and a *Diſſembler*. For where a man cannot chuſe or vary in Particulars, there it is good to take the ſafeſt and warieſt way in general; like the going ſoftly by one that cannot well ſee. Certainly the ableſt Men that ever were, have had all an openeſs and frankneſs of dealing, and a Name of Certainty and Veracity: but then they were like Horſes, well managed; for they could tell paſſing well, when to ſtop or turn; And at ſuch times, when they thought the caſe indeed required *Diſſimulation*, if then they uſed it, it came to paſs, that the former Opinion ſpread abroad of their good faith, and clearneſs of dealing, made them almoſt inviſible.

There are three degrees of this hiding and vailing of Mans self. The first *Closeness*, *Reservation*, and *Secrecy*; when a Man leaveth himself without observation, or without hold to be taken what he is. The Second *Dissimulation* in the *Negative*, when a Man lets fall Signs and Arguments, that he is not that he is. And the third *Simulation* in the *Affirmative*, when a Man industriously and expressly feigns and pretends to be that he is not.

For the first of these, *Secrecy*: It is indeed the vertue of a Confessor; and assuredly the *Secret* Man heareth many Confessions: For who will open himself to a Blab, or a Babler? But if a man be thought *Secret*, it inviteth discovery, as the more close Air sucketh in the more open: And as in confession, the revealing is not for worldly use, but for the ease of a Mans heart; so *Secret* Men come to the knowledge of many things in that kind, while Men rather discharge their minds, than impart their minds. In few words, Mysteries are due to *Secrecy*. Besides (to say truth) *Nakedness* is uncomely, as well in mind as in body; and it addeth no small reverence to Mens manners and actions, if they be not altogether open. As for Talkers, and Futile persons, they are commonly vain, and credulous withal. For he that talketh what he knoweth, will also talk what he knoweth not. Therefore set it down, *that an habit of Secrecy is both politick and moral*. And in this part it is good, that a Mans face give his tongue leave to speak. For the

the discovery of Mans self, by the tracts of his countenance, is a great weakness and betraying, by how much it is many times more marked and believed, than a Mans words.

For the second, which is *Dissimulation*: It followeth many times upon *Secrecy* by a necessity; so that he that will be *Secret*, must be a *Dissembler* in some degree. For men are too cunning, to suffer a man to keep an indifferent carriage between both, and to be *Secret* without swaying the ballance on either side. They will so beset a Man with questions, and draw him on, and pick it out of him, that without an absurd silence, he must shew an inclination one way; or if he do not, they will gather as much by his Silence, as by his Speech: As for Equivocations, or Oraculous Speeches, they cannot hold out long: so that no man can be *Secret*, except he give himself a little scope of *Dissimulation*, which is, as it were, but the skirts or train of *Secrecy*.

But for the third degree, which is *Simulation*, and false profession: That I hold more culpable, and less politick, except it be in great and rare matters. And therefore a general custom of *Simulation* (which is this last degree) is a Vice, rising either of a natural falseness or fearfulness, or of a mind that hath some main faults; which because a man must needs disguise, it maketh him practise *Simulation* in other things, lest his hand should be out of use.

The great *advantages* of *Simulation* and *Dissimulation* are three. First, To lay asleep opposi-

tion, and to surprise; For where a Mans intentions are published, it is an allarm to call up all that are against them. The second is, to reserve to a Mans self a fair retreat: For if a man engage himself by a manifest Declaration, he must go through, or take a fall. The third is, the better to discover the mind of another: For to him that opens himself, Men will hardly shew themselves averse, but will (fair) let him go on, and turn their freedom of speech to freedom of thought. And therefore it is a good shrewd Proverb of the *Spaniard*, *Tell a Lie, and find a Truth*; as if there were no way of discovery, but by *Simulation*.

There be also three *disadvantages* to set it even. The first, That *Simulation* and *Dissimulation* commonly carry with them a shew of fearfulness, which in any business doth spoil the feathers of round flying up to the mark. The second, That it puzzleth and perplexeth the conceits of many, that perhaps would otherwise co-operate with him, and makes a man walk almost alone to his own ends. The third and greatest is, That it depriveth a man of one of the most principal instruments for action, which is *Trust* and *Belief*. The composition and temperature is, to have *Openess* in fame and opinion, *Secrecy* in habit, *Dissimulation* in seasonable use, and a power to feign, if there be no remedy.

Of

VII.

Of Parents and Children.

THE joys of *Parents* are ſecret, and ſo are their griefs and fears; they cannot utter the one, nor they will not utter the other. *Children* ſweeten labours, but they make misfortunes more bitter: they increaſe the cares of Life, but they mitigate the remembrance of Death. The perpetuity by generation is common to Beaſts; but memory, merit, and noble works are proper to Men: and ſurely a man ſhall ſee the nobleſt Works and Foundations have proceeded from *Childleſs Men*, which have ſought to expreſs the Images of their minds, where thoſe of their bodies have failed: So the care of poſterity is moſt in them that have no poſterity. They that are the firſt raiſers of their Houſes, are moſt indulgent towards their *Children*; beholding them as the continuance, not only of their kind, but of their work, and ſo both *Children* and *Creatures*.

The difference in affection of *Parents* towards their ſeveral *Children*, is many times unequal, and ſometimes unworthy, eſpecially in the *Mother*; as *Solomon* ſaith, *A wiſe Son rejoyceth the Father, but an ungracious Son ſhames the Mother*. A man ſhall ſee, where there is a Houſe full of *Children*, one or two of the eldeſt reſpected, and the youngeſt made wantons; but in the midſt, ſome that

are as it were forgotten, who many times nevertheless prove the best. The illiberality of *Parents* in allowance towards their *Children*, is an harmful error, makes them base, acquaints them with shifts, makes them sort with mean company, and makes them surfeit more when they come to plenty: and therefore the proof is best, when men keep their authority towards their *Children*, but not their purse. Men have a fooliſh manner (both *Parents*, and *School-Masters*, and *Servants*) in creating and breeding an emulation between Brothers, during *Childhood*, which many times forteth to diſcord when they are men, and diſturbeth Families. The *Italians* make little difference between *Children* and Nephews, or near Kinsfolks; but ſo they be of the lump they care not, though they paſs not through their own body. And to ſay truth, in Nature it is much alike matter, inſomuch that we ſee a Nephew ſometimes reſembleth an Uncle, or a Kinſman, more than his own *Parent*, as the blood happens. Let *Parents* chuſe betimes the vocations and courſes they mean their *Children* ſhould take, for then they are moſt flexible; and let them not too much apply themſelves to the diſpoſition of their *Children*, as thinking they will take beſt to that which they have moſt mind to. It is true, that if the affection or aptneſs of the *Children* be extraordinary, then it is good not to croſs it: but generally the precept is good, *Optimum elige, ſuave & facile illud facet conſuetudo*, younger *Brothers* are commonly fortunate, but ſeldom or never where the *elder* are diſinherited. *Of*

VIII.

Of Marriage and Single Life.

HE that hath *Wife* and *Children*, hath given hoſtages to Fortune, for they are impediments to great enterprifes, either of Vertue or Miſchief. Certainly the beſt works, and of greateſt merit for the publick, have proceeded from the *unmarried* or *Childleſs Men*, which both in affection and means have married and endowed the publick. Yet it were great reaſon, that thoſe that have *Children*, ſhould have greateſt care of future times, unto which they know they muſt tranſmit their deareſt pledges. Some there are, who though they lead a *Single Life*, yet their thoughts do end with themſelves, and account future times impertinencies. Nay, there are ſome other, that account *Wife* and *Children* but as Bills of Charges. Nay, more, there are ſome fooliſh rich covetous men, that take pride in having no *Children*, becauſe they may be thought ſo much the richer. For perhaps they have heard ſome talk, *Such an one is a great rich Man*; and another except to it, *Tea, but he hath a great charge of Children*; as if it were an abatement to his riches. But the moſt ordinary cauſe of a *Single Life* is Liberty, eſpecially in certain ſelf-pleaſing and humorous minds, which are ſo ſenſible of every reſtraint, as they will go near to think

their Girdles and Garters to be Bonds and Shackles. *Unmarried men* are beſt Friends, beſt Maſters, beſt Servants, but not always beſt Subjects; for they are light to run away, and almoſt all Fugitives are of that condition. A *ſingle life* doth well with *Church-men:* for *Charity* will hardly water the Ground, where it muſt firſt fill a Pool. It is indifferent for *Judges* and *Magiſtrates*; for if they be facile and corrupt, you ſhall have a Servant five times worſe than a *Wife*. For Souldiers, I find the Generals commonly in their hortatives put men in mind of their *Wives* and *Children*. And I think the deſpiſing of *Marriage* amongſt the *Turks*, making the vulgar Souldier more baſe. Certainly *Wife* and *Children* are a kind of humanity; and *Single men*, though they be many times more charitable, becauſe their means are leſs exhauſt: yet on the other ſide, they are more cruel and hard hearted, (good to make ſevere Inquiſitors) becauſe their tenderneſs is not ſo oft called upon. Grave natures, led by cuſtom, and therefore conſtant, are commonly loving *Husbands*; as was ſaid of *Ulyſſes*, *Vetulam ſuam prætulit immortalitati*. Chaſt Women are often proud and froward, as preſuming upon the merit of their chaſtity. It is one of the beſt bonds both of chaſtity and obedience in the *Wife*, if ſhe thinks her *Husband* wiſe, which ſhe will never do, if ſhe find him *jealous*. *Wives* are young mens Miſtreſſes, Companions for middle Age, and old mens Nurſes; ſo as a man may have a quarrel to marry when he will. But yet

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he was reputed one of the wiſe men, that made anſwer to the queſtion; When a man ſhould marry? *A young man not yet, an elder man not at all.* It is often ſeen, that bad *Husbands* have very good *Wives*; whether it be, that it raiſeth the price of their *Husbands* kindneſs when it comes, or that the *Wives* take a pride in their patience. But this never fails, if the bad *Husbands* were of their own chuſing, againſt their Friends conſent; for then they will be ſure to make good their own folly.

IX.

Of Envy.

THERE be none of the *Affections*, which have been noted to facinate or bewitch, but *Love* and *Envy*. They both have vehement wiſhes, they frame themſelves readily into imaginations and ſuggeſtions; and they come eaſily into the eye, eſpecially upon the preſence of the objects, which are the points that conduce to faſcination, if any ſuch thing there be. We ſee likewiſe the Scripture calleth *Envy*, *an evil eye*; and the Aſtrologers call the evil influences of the Stars, *Evil Aſpects*; ſo that ſtill there ſeemeth to be acknowledged in the act of *Envy*, an ejaculation or irridiation of the Eye. Nay, ſome have been ſo curious, as to note, that the times, when the ſtroke or percuſſion of an *Envious Eye* doth moſt

moſt hurt, are, when the *Party envied* is beheld in Glory or Triumph; for that ſets an edge upon *Envy*: And beſides, at ſuch times the ſpirits of the *Perſon envied* do come forth moſt into the outward parts, and ſo meet the blow.

But leaving theſe curioſities, (though not unworthy to be thought on in fit place) we will handle, *What Perſons are apt to envy others, what Perſons are moſt ſubject to be envied themſelves,* and *what is the difference between publick and private Envy.*

A man that hath no virtue in himſelf, ever *envieth* virtue in others. For mens minds will either feed upon their own good, or upon others evil; and who wanteth the one, will prey upon the other; and who ſo is out of hope to attain to anothers virtue, will ſeek to come at even-hand by depreſſing anothers Fortune.

A man that is buſie and inquiſitive, is commonly *Envious*: for to know much of other mens matters cannot be, becauſe all that ado may concern his eſtate; therefore it muſt needs be, that he taketh a kind of play-pleaſure in looking upon the fortunes of others; neither can he that mindeth but his own buſineſs, find much matter for *Envy*: For *Envy* is a gadding paſſion, and walketh the Streets, and doth not keep home, *Non eſt curioſus, quin idem ſit malevolus.*

Men of noble Birth are noted to be *envious* towards new Men when they riſe: For the diſtance is altered; and it is like a deceit of the eye, that when others come on, they think themſelves go back.

Deformed

Deformed perſons, and Eunuchs, and old Men, and Baſtards are *envious*: for he that cannot poſſibly mend his own caſe, will do what he can to impair anothers, except theſe defects light upon a very brave and heroical nature, which thinketh to make his natural wants part of his honour; in that it ſhould be ſaid, that an Eunuch, or lame man, did ſuch great matters, affecting the honour of a miracle, as it was in *Narſes* the Eunuch, and *Ageſilaus*, and *Tamberlanes*, that were lame men.

The ſame is the caſe of men that riſe after calamities and misfortunes; for they are as men fallen out with the times, and think other mens harms a Redemption of their own ſufferings.

They that deſire to excel in too many matters, out of levity and vain glory, are ever *Envious*; For they cannot want work, it being impoſſible but many in ſome one of thoſe things ſhould ſurpaſs them; which was the character of *Adrian* the Emperour, that mortally *envied Poets* and *Painters*, and *Artificers* in works wherein he had a vein to excel.

Laſtly, near Kinsfolks and Fellows in Office, and thoſe that have been bred together, are more apt to *Envy* their equals, when they are raiſed: For it doth upbraid unto them their own fortunes, and pointeth at them, and cometh oftner into their remembrance, and incurreth likewiſe more into the note of others; and *Envy* ever redoubleth from Speech and Fame. *Cain's Envy* was the more vile and malignant towards his Brother

Brother *Abel*, becauſe when his Sacrifice was better accepted, there was no body to look on. Thus much for *thoſe that are apt to Envy.*

Concerning *thoſe that are more or leſs ſubject to Envy*: Firſt, Perſons of eminent virtue, when they are advanced are leſs *envied*: For their fortune ſeemeth but due unto them; and no man *envyeth* the payment of a *Debt*, but Rewards and Liberality rather. Again, *Envy* is ever joyned with the comparing of a man's ſelf; and where there is no compariſon, no *Envy*; and therefore Kings are not *envied*, but by Kings Nevertheleſs it is to be noted, that unworthy perſons are moſt *envied* at their firſt coming in, and afterwards overcome it better; whereas contrariwiſe, Perſons of worth and merit are moſt envied, when their fortune continueth long. For by that time, though their virtue be the ſame, yet it hath not the ſame *Luſtre*; for freſh men grow up that darken it.

Perſons of noble blood are leſs *envied* in their riſing; for it ſeemeth but right done to their Birth. Beſides, there ſeemeth not much added to their fortune; and *Envy* is as the Sun-beams, that beat hotter upon a Bank or ſteep riſing Ground, than upon a Flat. And for the ſame reaſons, thoſe that are advanced by degrees are leſs *envied*, than thoſe that are advanced ſuddenly, and *per ſaltum.*

Thoſe that have joyned with their Honour great Travels, Cares or Perils, are leſs ſubject to *Envy*: For men think that they earn their Honours

nours hardly, and pity them ſometimes; and Pity ever healeth *Envy*: Wherefore you ſhall obſerve, that the more deep and ſober ſort of politick Perſons in their greatneſs, are ever bemoaning themſelves, what a life they lead, chanting *Quanta patimur*. Not that they feel it ſo, but only to abate the edge of *Envy*. But this is to be underſtood of buſineſs that is laid upon men, and not ſuch as they call unto themſelves. For nothing increaſeth *Envy* more than an unneceſſary and ambitious engroſſing of buſineſs; and nothing doth extinguiſh *Envy* more, than for a great Perſon to preſerve all other inferior Officers in their full rights and preheminencies of their places: for by that means there be ſo many Skreens between him and *Envy*.

Above all, thoſe are moſt ſubject to *Envy* which carry the greatneſs of their fortunes in an inſolent and proud manner, being never well but while they are ſhewing how great they are, either by outward pomp, or by triumphing over all oppoſition or competition; whereas wiſe men will rather do Sacrifice to *Envy*, in ſuffering themſelves ſometimes of purpoſe to be croſt and over-born of things that do not much concern them. Notwithſtanding ſo much is true, That the carriage of greatneſs in a plain and open manner (ſo it be without arrogancy and vain-glory) doth draw leſs *Envy*, than if it be in a more crafty and cunning faſhion. For in that courſe a man doth but diſavow fortune, and ſeemeth to be conſcious of his own want in worth,

worth, and doth but teach others to *Envy* him.

Lastly, To conclude this part; As we said in the beginning, that the Act of *Envy* had somewhat in it of *witchcraft*, so there is no other cure of *Envy* but the cure of *witchcraft*; and that is, to remove the *Lot* (as they call it) and to lay it upon another. For which purpose, the wiser sort of great Persons, bring in ever upon the Stage some body upon whom to drive the *Envy* that would come upon themselves; sometimes upon Ministers and Servants, sometimes upon Colleagues and Associates, and the like; and for that turn there are never wanting some Persons of violent and undertaking Natures, who, so they may have Power and Business, will take it at any cost.

Now to speak of *publick Envy*. There is yet some good in *publick Envy*; whereas in *private* there is none. For *publick Envy* is an *Ostracism*, that eclipseth men when they grow too great. And therefore it is a bridle also to great ones, to keep them within bounds.

This *Envy* being in the Latine word *Invidia*, goeth in the modern Languages by the name of *Discontentment*, of which we shall speak in handling *Sedition*. It is a disease in a State like to infection; for as infection spreadeth upon that which is sound, and tainteth it; so when *Envy* is gotten once in a State, it traduceth even the best actions thereof, and turneth them into an ill odour. And therefore there is little won by intermingling of plausible actions. For that doth

argue

argue but a weakneſs and fear of *Envy*, which hurteth ſo much the more, as it is likewiſe uſual in *infections*; which if you fear them, you call them upon you.

This *publick Envy* ſeemeth to bear chiefly upon principal Officers or Miniſters, rather than upon Kings and Eſtates themſelves. But this is a ſure rule, that if the *Envy* upon the Miniſters be great, when the cauſe of it in him is ſmall; or if the *Envy* be general, in a manner, upon all the Miniſters of an Eſtate, then the *Envy* (though hidden) is truly upon the State it ſelf. And ſo much of *publick Envy* or *Diſcontentment*, and the difference thereof from *private Envy*, which was handled in the firſt place.

We will add this in general, touching the Affection of *Envy*; that, of all other Affections, it is the moſt importune and continual. For of other Affections there is occaſion given but now and then. And therefore it was well ſaid, *Invidia feſtos dies non agit.* For it is ever working upon ſome or other. And it is alſo noted, that *Love* and *Envy* do make a man pine, which other Affections do not; becauſe they are not ſo continual. It is alſo the vileſt Affection, and the moſt depraved: for which cauſe it is the proper Attribute of the Devil, who is called *the envious Man, that ſoweth Tares amongſt the Wheat by night*: as it always cometh to paſs, that *Envy* worketh ſubtily, and in the dark, and to the prejudice of good things, ſuch as is the *Wheat*.

Of

X.

Of Love.

THE Stage is more beholding to *Love* than the Life of Man. For, as to the Stage, *Love* is even matter of Comedies, and now and then of Tragedies: but in Life it doth much miſchief; ſometimes like a *Syren*, ſometimes like a *Fury*. You may obſerve, that amongſt all the great and worthy perſons (whereof the Memory remaineth, either Ancient or Recent) there is not one that hath been tranſported to the mad degree of *Love*: which ſhew, that great Spirits, and great Buſineſs, do keep out this weak Paſſion. You muſt except nevertheleſs, *Marcus Antonius*, the half Partner of the Empire of *Rome*; and *Appius Claudius* the *Decem-vir*, the Law-giver: whereof the former was indeed a Voluptuous Man, and Inordinate; but the Latter was an Auſtere and Wiſe Man. And therefore it ſeems, (though rarely) that *Love* can *find* entrance, not only into an open Heart, but alſo into a Heart well fortified, if watch be not well kept. It is a poor ſaying of *Epicurus*, *Satis magnum Alter Alteri Theatrum ſumus*. As if Man, made for the contemplation of Heaven, and all noble Objects, ſhould do nothing but kneel before a little Idol, and make himſelf a Subject, though not of the Mouth (as Beaſts are) yet of the

the Eye, which was given him for higher purpoſes. It is a ſtrange thing to note the Exceſs of this paſſion; and how it braves the Nature and Value of things by this, that the ſpeaking in a perpetual *Hyperbole* is comely in nothing but in *Love*. Neither is it meerly in the Phraſe: for, whereas it hath been well ſaid, that the Arch-flatterer, with whom all the petty flatterers have intelligence, is a Man's ſelf; certainly, the *Love* is more. For there was never a proud Man thought ſo abuſurdly well of himſelf, as the *Lover* doth of the Perſon *Loved*: and therefore it was well ſaid, that *it is impoſſible to Love, and to be wiſe*. Neither doth this weakneſs appear to others only, and not to the Party *Loved*: but to the *Loved* moſt of all; except the *Love* be reciproque: for it is a true rule, that *Love* is ever rewarded, either with the reciproque, or with an inward and ſecret Contempt. By how much the more men ought to beware of this Paſſion, which loſeth not only other things, but it ſelf. As for the other loſſes, the *Poets* Relation doth well figure them; that he that preferreth *Helena*, quitteth the gifts of *Juno* and *Pallas*. For whoſoever eſteemeth too much of amorous Affection, quitteth both *Riches* and *Wiſdom*. This Paſſion hath his Floods in the very times of weakneſs: which are great *Proſperity*, and great *Adverſity*; though this latter hath been leſs obſerved. Both which times kindle *Love*, and make it more frequent, and therefore ſhew it to be the Child of Folly. They do beſt, who, if they cannot but admit

Love; yet make it keep Quarter, and ſever it wholly from their ſerious Affairs and Actions of Life: for if it check once with Buſineſs, it troubleth mens Fortunes, and maketh men that they can no ways be true to their own Ends. I know not how, but martial men are given to *Love*; I think it is but as they are given to *Wine*; for *Perils* commonly ask to be paid in *Pleaſures*. There is in a mans Nature a ſecret Inclination and Motion towards *Love* of others; which if it be not ſpent upon ſome one, or a few, doth naturally ſpread it ſelf towards many, and maketh men become Human and Charitable; as it is ſeen ſometime in *Friars*. *Nuptial* Love *maketh Mankind*; *Friendly* Love *perfecteth it*; *but wanton* Love *corrupteth and embaſeth it.*

XI.

Of Great Place.

MEN in *Great Place* are thrice *Servants*: Servants of the *Soveraign* or *State*; Servants of *Fame*; and Servants of *Buſineſs*. So as they have no Freedom, either in their *Perſons*, nor in their *Actions*, nor in their *Times*. It is a ſtrange deſire to ſeek *Power*, and to loſe *Liberty*; or to ſeek Power over *others*, and to loſe Power over a *Mans ſelf*. The Riſing unto *Place* is laborious; and by *Pains* men come to greater *Pains*: and it is ſometimes baſe; and by *Indigni-*

ties

nities men come to *Dignities*. The Standing is Slippery, and the Regress is either a Downfall, or at least an Eclipse, which is a melancholy thing. *Cum non sis, qui fueris, non esse, cur velis vivere.* Nay, retire men cannot when they would; neither will they, when it is to the Reason: but are impatient of Privateness, even in Age and Sickness, which require the Shadow: Like old Townsmen, that will be still sitting at their Street Door, though thereby they offer Age to Scorn. Certainly Great Persons had need to borrow other mens Opinions, to think themselves happy; for if they judge by their own feeling, they cannot find it: but if they think with themselves what other men think of them, and that other men would fain be as they are, then they are happy, as it were by report; when perhaps they find the contrary within. For they are the first that find their own griefs, though they be the last that find their own faults. Certainly, Men, in great Fortunes are strangers to themselves, and while they are in the puzzle of Business, they have no time to tend their Health, either of body or mind. *Illi mors gravis incubat, qui notus nimis omnibus, ignotus moritur sibi.* In *Place*, there is licence to do Good and Evil; whereof the latter is a curse, for in Evil, the best condition is not to Will, the second not to Can. But Power to do good, is the true and lawful end of aspiring: for good thoughts (though God accept them,) yet towards Men are little better than good dreams, except they be put in

Act; and that cannot be without Power and Place, as the Vantage and Commanding Ground. Merit and good Works is the end of mans motion; and Conscience of the same is the accomplishment of mans rest: for if a man can be partaker of Gods Theater, he shall likewise be partaker of Gods Rest. *Et conversus Deus, ut aspiceret opera, quæ fecerunt manus suæ, vidit quod omnia essent bona nimis*; And then the Sabbath. In the Discharge of thy *Place*, set before thee the best Examples; for Imitation is a Globe of Precepts. And after a time set before thee thine own Example; and examine thy self strictly whether thou didst not best at first. Neglect not also the Examples of those that have carried themselves ill in the same *Place*: not to set off thy self by taxing their memory; but to direct thy self what to avoid. Reform therefore without bravery or scandal of former Times and Persons; but yet set it down to thy self, as well to create good precedents as to follow them. Reduce things to the first Institution, and observe wherein and how they have degenerated; but yet ask Counsel of both Times, of the Ancienter Time what is best, and of the Latter Time what is fittest. Seek to make thy Course Regular, that men may know before-hand what they may expect, but be not too positive and peremptory; and express thy self well when thou digressest from thy Rule. Preserve the right of thy *Place*, but stir not questions of Jurisdiction; and rather assume thy Right in Silence and *de facto*, than voic

voice it with Claims and Challenges. Preſerve likewiſe the Rights of Inferior *Places*; and think it more Honour to direct in chief, than to be buſie in all. Embrace and invite Helps and Advices, touching the Execution of thy *Place*: and do not drive away ſuch as bring Information, as medlers, but accept of them in good part. The Vices of *Authority* are chiefly four: *Delays, Corruption, Roughneſs and Faction.* For *Delays*, Give eaſie acceſs, Keep Times appointed, Go through with that which is in hand, and interlace not buſineſs but of neceſſity. For *Corruption*, Not only bind thine own hands, or thy Servants hands from taking, but bind the hands of Suitors alſo from offering: For Integrity uſed, doth the one; but Integrity profeſſed, and with a manifeſt deteſtation of Bribery, doth the other; and avoid not only the Fault, but the Suſpicion. Whoſoever is found variable, and changeth manifeſtly, without manifeſt Cauſe, giveth ſuſpicion of *Corruption*. Therefore always when thou changeſt thine opinion or courſe, profeſs it plainly, and declare it, together with the Reaſons that move thee to change, and do not think to ſteal it. A Servant, or a Favourite, if he be inward, and no other apparant Cauſe of Eſteem, is commonly thought but a By-way to cloſe *Corruption*. For *Roughneſs*, It is a needleſs cauſe of *Diſcontent*; *Severity* breedeth Fear, but *Roughneſs* breedeth Hate. Even Reproofs from Authority ought to be grave, and not taunting. As for *Facility*, It is worſe than Bribery: for Bribes

come but now and then; but if Importunity, or idle Respects lead a Man, he shall never be without, as *Solomon* saith, *To respect Persons is not good; for such a Man will transgress for a piece of bread.* It is most true that was anciently spoken; *A Place sheweth the Man*: and it sheweth some to the better, and some to the worse: *Omnium consensu; capax Imperii, nisi imperasset*; saith *Tacitus* of *Galba*: but of *Vespasian* he saith, *Solus Imperantium Vespasianus mutatus in melius.* Though the one was meant of Sufficiency, the other of Manners and Affection. It is an assured Sign of a worthy and generous Spirit, whom *Honour* amends: for *Honour* is, or should be, the place of Vertue; and as in Nature things move violently to their place, and calmly in their place: so Vertue in Ambition is violent, in Authority setled and calm. All rising to *Great Place*, is by a winding Stair; and if there be Factions, it is good to side a Man self, whilst he is in the Rising; and to ballance himself when he is placed. Use the memory of thy Predessor fairly and tenderly; for if thou dost not, it is a debt will sure be paid when thou art gone. If thou have Colleagues, respect them, and rather call them when they look not for it, than exclude them when they have reason to look to be called. Be not too sensible, or too remembring of thy Place in Conversation, and private Answers to Suitors; But let it rather be said, *When he sits in Place he is another Man.*

Of

XII.

Of Boldneſs.

IT is a trivial Grammar-School Text, but yet worthy a wiſe *Mans* conſideration. Queſtion was asked of *Demoſthenes*, *What was the chief part of an Orator*? He anſwered, *Action*; What next? *Action*; What next again? *Action*; He ſaid it that knew it beſt, and had by nature himſelf no advantage in that he commended. A ſtrange thing, that that part of an Orator which is but ſuperficial, and rather the vertue of a Player, ſhould be placed ſo high above thoſe other noble parts of *Invention*, *Elocution*, and the reſt: Nay, almoſt alone; as if it were All in All. But the reaſon is plain. There is in Humane Nature generally more of the Fool than of the Wiſe; and therefore thoſe faculties, by which the fooliſh part of mens minds is taken are moſt potent. Wonderful like is the caſe of *Boldneſs* in civil buſineſs: What firſt? *Boldneſs*; What ſecond and third? *Boldneſs*. And yet *Boldneſs* is a Child of Ignorance and Baſeneſs, far inferior to other parts. But nevertheleſs it doth faſcinate and bind hand and foot, thoſe that are either ſhallow in judgment, or weak in courage, which are the greateſt part; yea, and prevaileth with wiſe men at weak times. Therefore we ſee it hath done Wonders in popular States, but with Senates

and Princes leſs; and more, ever upon the firſt entrance of *Bold Perſons* into action, than ſoon after: for *Boldneſs* is an ill Keeper of Promiſe. Surely, as there are *Mountebanks* for the Natural Body, ſo are there *Mountebanks* for the Politick Body: Men that undertake great Cures, and perhaps have been lucky in two or three Experiments, but want the grounds of Science, and therefore cannot hold out. Nay, you ſhall ſee a *Bold Fellow* many times do *Mahomet*'s miracle: *Mahomet* made the people believe, that he would call an Hill to him; and from the top of it offer up his Prayers for the obſervers of his Law. The people aſſembled, *Mahomet* called the Hill to him again and again; and when the Hill ſtood ſtill, he was never a whit abaſhed, but ſaid, *If the Hill will not come to* Mahamet, Mahomet *will go to the Hill.* So theſe men, when they have promiſed great matters, and failed moſt ſhamefully, yet (if they have the perfection of *Boldneſs*) they will but ſlight it over, and make a turn, and no more ado. Certainly to men of great judgment, *Bold* perſons are a ſport to behold; nay, and to the Vulgar alſo, *Boldneſs* hath ſomewhat of the Ridiculous. For if abſurdity be the ſubject of laughter, doubt you not, but great *Boldneſs* is ſeldom without ſome abſurdity. Eſpecially it is a ſport to ſee, when a *Bold Fellow* is out of countenance; for that puts his face into a moſt ſhrunken and wooden poſture, as needs it muſt: for in baſhfulneſs the Spirits do a little go and come, but with *Bold* men, upon like occaſion, they

they ſtand at a ſtay, like a Stale at Cheſs, where it is no Mate, but yet the Game cannot ſtir. But this laſt were fitter for a Satyr than for a ſerious Oſervation. This is well to be weighed, That *Boldneſs* is ever blind; for it ſeeth not dangers and inconveniencies; therefore it is ill in Counſel, good in Execution: ſo that the right uſe of *Bold* perſons is, that they never command in Chief, but be Seconds, and under the direction of others. For in Counſel it is good ſo ſee Dangers, and in Execution not to ſee them, except they be very great.

XIII.

Of Goodneſs, and Goodneſs of Nature.

I Take *Goodneſs* in this ſence, the affecting of the weal of Men, which is that the *Grecians* call *Philanthropia*; and the *Word Humanity* (as it is uſed) is a little too light to expreſs it. *Goodneſs* I call the Habit, and *Goodneſs of Nature* the Inclination. This of all Vertues and Dignities of the mind is the greateſt, being the Character of the Deity; and without it man is a buſie, miſchievous wretched thing, no better than a kind of Vermine. *Goodneſs* anſwers to the *Theological Vertue*, *Charity*, and admits no exceſs, but error. The deſire of power in exceſs cauſed the Angels to fall; the deſire of knowledge in exceſs cauſed Man to fall; but in *Charity* there is no exceſs,

neſs, neither can Angel or Man come in danger by it. The inclination of *Goodneſs* is imprinted deeply in the nature of man; inſomuch, that if it iſſue not towards men, it will take unto other living Creatures; as it is ſeen in the *Turks*, a cruel people, who nevertheleſs are kind to Beaſts, and give Alms to Dogs and Birds: Inſomuch as *Busbechius* reporteth, a Chriſtian Boy in *Conſtantinople* had like to have been ſtoned for gagging, in a waggiſhneſs, a long-billed Fowl. Errors indeed, in this Vertue, in *Goodneſs* or *Charity* may be committed. The *Italians* have an ungracious Proverb, *Tanto buon che val niente*; *So good that he is good for nothing.* And one of the Doctors of *Italy*, *Nicolas Macchiavel*, had the confidence to put in writing, almoſt in plain terms, *That the Chriſtian Faith had given up good men in prey to thoſe that are tyrannical and unjuſt*: which he ſpake, becauſe indeed there was never Law, or Sect, or Opinion, did ſo much magnifie *Goodneſs* as the Chriſtian Religion doth: therefore, to avoid the ſcandal, and danger both, it is good to take knowledge of the errors of an Habit ſo excellent. Seek the good of other men, but be not in bondage to their faces or fancies; for that is but facility or ſoftneſs, which taketh an honeſt mind priſoner. Neither give the *Æſop*'s Cock a Gem, who would be better pleaſed and happier if he had had a Barly Corn. The Example of God teacheth the Leſſon truly; *He ſendeth his Rain, and maketh his Sun to ſhine upon the Juſt and Unjuſt*; but he doth not rain Wealth, nor

nor ſhine Honour and Virtues upon Men equally. Common Benefits are to be communicated with all; but peculiar benefits with choice. And beware, how in making the *Portraiture*, thou breakeſt the Pattern; for Divinity maketh the love of our ſelves the Pattern; the love of our Neighbours but the Portraiture. *Sell all thou haſt and give it to the poor, and follow me*: but ſell not all thou haſt, except thou come and follow me; that is, except thou have a Vocation, wherein thou mayſt do as much good with little means as with great: for otherwiſe, in feeding the Streams thou drieſt the Fountain. Neither is there only a *Habit* of *Goodneſs* directed by right Reaſon: but there is in ſome Men, even in Nature, a diſpoſition towards it; as on the other ſide, there is a natural malignity. For there be that in their Nature do not affect the good of others. The lighter ſort of malignity turneth but to croſsneſs, or frowardneſs, or aptneſs to oppoſe, or difficileneſs, or the like; but the deeper ſort to envy and meer miſchief. Such men in other mens calamities, are as it were in ſeaſon, and are ever on the loading part; not ſo good as the Dogs that licked *Lazarus* ſores, but like Flies, that are ſtill buzzing upon any thing that is raw; *Miſum bropi*, that make it their practice to bring men to the Bough, and yet have never a Tree for the purpoſe in their Gardens, as *Timon* had. Such diſpoſitions are the very errors of Human Nature; and yet they are the fitteſt Timber to make great Politicks of: like to knee-Timber,

that

that is good for Ships that are ordained to be toſſed, but not for building Houſes, that ſhall ſtand firm. The parts and ſigns of *Goodneſs* are many. If a Man be gracious and courteous to Strangers, it ſhews he is a Citizen of the world; and that his heart is no Iſland cut off from other Lands, but a Continent that joyns to them. If he be compaſſionate towards the afflictions of others, it ſhews that his heart is like the noble Tree, that is wounded it ſelf, when it gives the Balm. If he eaſily pardons and remits offences, it ſhews that his mind is planted above Injuries, ſo that he cannot be ſhot. If he be thankful for ſmall benefits, it ſhews that he weighs mens minds, and not their traſh. But above all, if he have Saint *Paul*'s perfection, that he would wiſh to be an *Anathema* from Chriſt, for the Salvation of his Brethren, it ſhews much of a Divine Nature, and a kind of conformity with *Chriſt* himſelf.

XIV.

Of Nobility.

WE will ſpeak of *Nobility*, Firſt as a *Portion* of an *Eſtate*, then as a *Condition* of *Particular Perſons*. A *Monarchy*, where there is no *Nobility* at all, is ever a pure and abſolute *Tyranny*, as that of the *Turks*, for *Nobility* attempers *Sovereignty*, and draws the eyes of the People

People ſomewhat aſide from the *Line Royal*. But for *Democracies* they need it not: and they are commonly more quiet, and leſs ſubject to Sedition, than where there are Stirps of *Nobles*. For mens eyes are upon the buſineſs, and not upon the perſons; or if upon the perſons, it is for the buſineſs ſake, as fitteſt, and not for flags and pedigree. We ſee the *Switzers* laſt well, notwithſtanding their diverſity of Religion, and of Cantons: for Utility is their Bond, and not Reſpects. The United Provinces of the *Low-Countries* in their Government excel: for where there is an equality, the Conſultations are more indifferent, and the payments and tributes more cheerful. A great and potent *Nobility* addeth Majeſty to a Monarch, but diminiſheth Power; and putteth Life and Spirit into the People, but preſſeth their Fortune. It is well when *Nobles* are not too great for Soveraignty, nor for juſtice; and yet maintained in that height, as the Inſolency of Inferiours may be broken upon them, before it come on too faſt upon the Majeſty of Kings. A numerous *Nobility* cauſeth Poverty and inconvenience in a State: for it is a ſurcharge of expence; and beſides, it being of neceſſity that many of the *Nobility* fall in time to be weak in Fortune, it maketh a kind of Diſproportion between Honour and Means.

As for *Nobility* in *particular Perſons*, It is a reverend thing to ſee an ancient Caſtle or Building not in decay; or to ſee a fair Timber Tree found and perfect: how much more to behold an Ancient

cient *Noble Family*, which hath stood against the Waves and Weathers of Time. For New *Nobility* is but the Act of Power; but Ancient *Nobility* is the Act of Time. Those that are first raised to *Nobility* are commonly more virtuous, but less innocent than their Descendents; for there is rarely any Rising, but by a commixture of good and evil Arts. But it is reason the memory of their Virtues remain to their Posterity; and their faults die with themselves. *Nobility* of *Birth* commonly abateth Industry; and he that is not industrious, envieth him that is. Besides, *Noble Persons* cannot go much higher; and he that standeth at a stay when others rise, can hardly avoid motions of Envy. On the other side, *Nobility* extinguisheth the Passive Envy from others towards them; because they are in possession of Honour. Certainly Kings that have able Men of their *Nobility*, shall find ease in employing them, and a better slide into their business: for people naturally bend to them, as born in some sort to command.

XV.

Of Seditions and Troubles.

SHepherds of *People* had need know the *Kalenders* of *Tempests* in *State*; which are commonly greatest when things grow to equality; as natural *Tempests* are greatest about the *Æquinoctia.*

noſtia. And as there are certain hollow blaſts of Wind, and ſecret ſwellings of Seas before a Tempeſt, ſo are there in States.

——Ille etiam cæcos inſtare Tumultus
Sæpe monet, Fraudeſque & operta tumeſcere Bella.

Libels and Licentious Diſcourſes againſt the State, when they are frequent and open; and in like ſort, falſe News often running up and down to the diſadvantage of the State, and haſtily embraced; are amongſt the Signs of *Troubles*. *Virgil* giving the pedigree of *Fame*, ſaith, *She was Siſter to the Giants.*

Illam Terra Parens ira irritata Deorum,
Extremam (ut perhibent) Cœo Enceladoque
ſororem
Progenuit.——

As if *Fames* were the Reliques of *Seditions* paſt; but they are no leſs indeed, the Preludes of *Seditions* to come. Howſoever he noteth it right, That *Seditious Tumults*, and *Seditious Fames*, differ no more but as Brother and Siſter, Maſculine and Feminine; eſpecially if it come to that, that the beſt Actions of a State, and the moſt plauſible, and which ought to give greateſt contentment, are taken in ill ſenſe, and traduced: for that ſhews the envy great, as *Tacitus* ſaith, *Conflata magna Invidia, ſeu bene, ſeu male, geſta premunt.* Neither doth it follow, that becauſe

theſe

theſe *Fames* are a ſign of *Troubles*, that the ſuppreſſing of them with too much ſeverity, ſhould be a Remedy of *Troubles*: for the deſpiſing of them many times checks them beſt; and the going about to ſtop them, doth but make a Wonder long-liv'd.

Alſo that kind of obedience which *Tacitus* ſpeaketh of is to be held ſuſpected; *Erant in officio, ſed tamen qui mallent mandata Imperantium interpretari, quam exequi*; Diſputing, Excuſing, Cavilling upon Mandates and Directions, is a kind of ſhaking off the yoak, and aſſay of diſobedience; eſpecially, if in thoſe Diſputings, they which are for the direction, ſpeak fearfully and tenderly; and thoſe that are againſt it audaciouſly.

Alſo, as *Machiavel* noteth well; when Princes, that ought to be common Parents, make themſelves as a Party, and lean to a ſide, it is a Boat that is overthrown by uneven weight on the one ſide; as was well ſeen in the time of *Henry* the third of *France*: for firſt himſelf entred League for the extirpation of the *Proteſtants*, and preſently after the ſame League was turned upon himſelf: for when the Authority of Princes is made but an Acceſſary to a Cauſe, and that there are other Bands that tie faſter than the Band of Soveraignty, Kings begin to be almoſt put out of poſſeſſion.

Alſo, when Diſcords, and Quarrels, and Factions are carried openly and audaciouſly, it is a ſign the Reverence of Government is loſt. For the

the Motions of the greateſt Perſons in a Government, ought to be as the motions of the Planets under *Primum Mobile* (according to the old Opinion:) which is, that every of them is carried ſwiftly by the higheſt Motion, and ſoftly in their own Motion. And therefore when great Ones in their own particular Motion move violently; and as *Tacitus* expreſſeth it well, *Laberius quam ut Imperantium meminiſſent*, it is a ſign the Orbs are out of Frame: for Reverence is that wherewith Princes are girt from God, who threatneth the diſſolving thereof; *Solvam cingula Regum*.

So when any of the four Pillars of Government are mainly ſhaken or weakned, (which are *Religion*, *Juſtice*, *Counſel*, and *Treaſure*) Men had need to pray for fair weather.

But let us paſs from this part of Predictions (concerning which, nevertheleſs, more light may be taken from that which followeth) and let us ſpeak firſt of the *Materials* of *Seditions*; then of the *Motives* of them; and thirdly, of the *Remedies*.

Concerning the *Materials* of *Seditions*; It is a thing well to be conſidered: For the ſureſt way to prevent *Seditions* (if the times do bear it) is to take away the matter of them. For if there be fuel prepared, it is hard to tell whence the ſpark ſhall come that ſhall ſet it on fire. The *Matter* of *Seditions* is of two kinds; *much Poverty* and *much Diſcontentment*. It is certain, ſo many *Overthrown Eſtates*, ſo many votes for *Troubles*. *Lucan* noteth well the *State* of *Rome* before the Civil War.

Hinc Usura vorax, rapidumque in tempore Fœnus,
Hinc concussa Fides, & multis utile Bellum.

This same *multis utile Bellum* is an assured and infallible sign of a State disposed to *Seditions* and *Troubles*. And if this *Poverty* and broken Estate in the better sort, be joyned with a want and necessity in the mean People, the danger is imminent and great; for the Rebellions of the Belly are the worst. As for *Discontentments*, they are in the Politick Body like to Humours in the Natural, which are apt to gather preter-natural Heat, and to enflame. And let no Prince measure the danger of them by this, whether they be just or unjust: for that were to imagine People to be too reasonable, who do often spurn at their own good: nor yet by this, whether the Griefs whereupon they rise, be in fact great or small: for they are the most dangerous *Discontentments*, where the fear is greater than the feeling. *Dolendi modus, Timendi non item.* Besides in great Oppressions, the same things that provoke the Patience, do withal mate the courage; but in Fears it is not so. Neither let any Prince or State be secure concerning *Discontentments* because they have been often, or have been long, and yet no Peril hath ensued; for as it is true, that every Vapour or Fume doth not turn into a Storm: So it is nevertheless true, that Storms, though they blow over divers times, yet may fall at last: and as the *Spanish* Proverb notes well,

will; *The Cord breaketh at the last by the weakest pull.*

The *Causes* and *Motives* of *Seditions* are, *Innovation in Religion, Taxes, Alteration of Laws and Customs, breaking of Privileges, General Oppression, Advancement of unworthy Persons, Strangers, Dearths, Disbanded Soldiers, Factions grown desperate.* And whatsoever in offending People, joyneth and knitteth them in a Common Cause.

For the *Remedies*; there may be some general Preservatives whereof we will speak; as for the particular Cures, it must answer to the particular Diseases, and so be left to Counsel rather than Rule.

The first *Remedy* or Prevention is, to remove by all means possible that *Material Cause* of *Sedition*, whereof we speak; which is *Want* and *Poverty* in the *Estate*. To which purpose serveth the Opening and well Balancing of Trade, the Cherishing of Manufactures, the Banishing of Idleness, the Repressing of Waste and Excess by Sumptuary Laws, the Improvement and Husbanding of the Soyl, the Regulating of Prices of Things vendible, the Moderating of Taxes and Tributes, and the like. Generally it is to be foreseen, that the Population of a Kingdom (especially if it be not mowen down by Wars) do not exceed the Stock of the Kingdom, which should maintain them. Neither is the Population to be reckoned only by number; for a smaller number that spend more, and earn less, do wear out an Estate sooner than a greater number that

live lower, and gather more. Therefore the multiplying of Nobility, and other Degrees of Quality, in an over Proportion to the Common People, doth speedily bring a State to Necessity: and so doth likewise an overgrown Clergy, for they bring nothing to the Stock. And in like manner, when more are bred Scholars than Preferments can take off.

It is likewise to be remembred, that forasmuch as the increase of any Estate must be upon the Foreigners; (for whatsoever is somewhere gotten, is somewhere lost.) There be but three things which one Nation selleth unto another; the *Commodity* as Nature yieldeth it; the *Manufacture* and the *Vesture* of *Carriage*: So that if these three Wheels go, Wealth will flow as in a Spring-tide. And it cometh many times to pass, that *Materiam superabit Opus*; that the Work and Carriage is more worth than the Materials, and inricheth a State more: as is notably seen in the *Low Country-men*, who have the best Mines above Ground in the World.

Above all things good Policy is to be used, that the Treasure and Moneys in a State be not gathered into few Hands. For otherwise a State may have a great Stock, and yet starve. And Money is like Muck, not good except it be spread. This is done chiefly by suppressing, or at the least keeping a straight hand upon the Devouring Trades of *Usury*, *Ingrossing*, great *Pasturages*, and the like.

For

For removing *Discontentments*, or at least the danger of them, there is in every State (as we know) two portions of *Subjects*, the *Nobles* and the *Commonalty*. When one of these is *Discontent*, the danger is not great; for common people are of slow motion, if they be not excited by the greater sort; and the great of course of small strength, except the multitude be apt and ready to move of themselves. Then is truly the danger, when the greater sort do but wait for the troubling of the Waters among the meaner, that then they may declare themselves. The Poets feign, that the rest of the Gods would have bound *Jupiter*, which he hearing of, by the Counsel of *Pallas*, sent for *Briareus* with his hundred hands, to come in to his aid. An Embleme no doubt, to shew how safe it is for Monarchs to make sure of the good will of common people.

To give moderate liberty for *Griefs* and *Discontentments* to evaporate (so it be without too great Insolency or bravery) is a safe way. For he that turneth the Humours back, and maketh the Wound bleed inwards, endangereth malign Ulcers, and pernicious Impostumations.

The part of *Epimetheus* might well become *Prometheus* in the case of *Discontentments*; for there is not a better provision against them. *Epimetheus*, when griefs and evils flew abroad, at last shut the Lid, and kept Hope in the bottom of the Vessel. Certainly the politick and artificial nourishing and entertaining of *Hopes*, and

carrying men from *Hopes* to *Hopes*, is one of the best Antidotes against the Poyson of *Discontentments*. And it is a certain sign of a wise Government and Proceeding, when it can hold mens hearts by *Hopes*, when it cannot by satisfaction; and when it can handle things in such manner, as no evil shall appear so peremptory, but that it hath some out-let of *Hope*: which is the less hard to do, because both particular Persons and Factions are apt enough to flatter themselves, or at least to brave that which they believe not.

Also the fore-sight and prevention, that there be no likely or fit Head, whereunto *Discontented Persons* may resort, and under whom they may joyn, is a known, but an excellent point of caution. I understand a fit Head to be one that hath Greatness and Reputation, that hath Confidence with the *Discontented* Party, and upon whom they turn their eyes; and that is thought *Discontented* in his own particular; which kind of Persons are either to be won, and reconciled to the State, and that in a fast and true manner; or to be fronted with some other of the same Party that may oppose them, and so divide the Reputation. Generally the dividing and breaking of all Factions and Combinations that are adverse to the State, and setting them at distance, or at least distrust among themselves, is not one of the worst *Remedies*. For it is a desperate case, if those that hold with the proceedings of the State, be full of Discord and Faction; and those that are against it, be entire and united.

I have noted, that some witty and sharp Speeches, which have fallen from *Princes*, have given fire to *Seditions*. *Cæsar* did himself infinite hurt in that Speech, *Sylla nescivit literas, non potuit dictare*: for it did utterly cut off that *Hope* which men had entertained, that he would at one time or other give over his Dictatorship. *Galba* undid himself by that Speech, *Legi à se militem non enim*, for it put the Soldiers out of Hope of the Donative. *Probus* likewise by that Speech, *Si vixero, non opus erit amplius Romano Imperio militibus*: A Speech of great despair for the Soldiers: And many the like. Surely *Princes* had need, in tender matters, and tickish times, to beware what they say; especially in these short Speeches, which fly abroad like Darts, and are thought to be shot out of their secret Intentions. For as for large Discourses, they are flat things, and not so much noted.

Lastly, Let Princes against all Events not be without some great Person, one, or rather more, of Military Valour near unto them, for the repressing of *Seditions* in their beginnings. For without that, there useth to be more trepidation in Court, upon the first breaking out of *Troubles*, than were fit. And the *State* runneth the danger of that, which *Tacitus* saith; *Atque ita habitus animorum fuit, ut pessimum facinus auderent pauci, plures velint, omnes paterentur.* But let such Military Persons be assured, and well reputed of, rather than Factious and Popular, holding also good correspondence with the other

great Men in the *State*, or else the Remedy is worse than the Disease.

XVI.

Of Atheism.

I Had rather believe all the Fables in the *Legend*, and the *Talmud*, and the *Alcoran*, than that this Universal Frame is without a Mind. And therefore God never wrought a Miracle to convince *Atheism*, because his ordinary Works convince it. It is true, that a little Philosophy inclineth Mans mind to *Atheism*, but depth in Philosophy bringeth Mens minds about to *Religion*: for while the mind of man looketh upon second Causes scattered, it may sometimes rest in them, and go no further: but when it beholdeth the Chain of them Confederate and Linked together, it must needs fly to *Providence* and *Deity*. Nay, even that *School* which is most accused of *Atheism*, doth most demonstrate *Religion*: That is, the *School* of *Leucippus* and *Democritus*, and *Epicurus*. For it is a thousand times more credible, that four mutable Elements, and one immutable fifth Essence, duly and eternally placed, need no God, than that an Army of infinite small Portions, or Seeds unplaced, should have produced this order and beauty without a Divine Marshal. The Scripture saith, *The Fool hath said in his heart, there is no God*: It is not said,

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The fool hath thought in his heart: So as he rather saith it by rote to himself, as that he would have, than that he can throughly believe it, or be perswaded of it. For none deny there is a God, but those for whom it maketh that there were no God. It appeareth in nothing more, that *Atheism* is rather in the *Lip*, than in the *Heart* of Man, than by this; That *Atheists* will ever be talking of that their Opinion, as if they fainted in it within themselves, and would be glad to be strengthned by the consent of others. Nay more, you shall have *Atheists* strive to get *Disciples*, as it fareth with other Sects. And, which is most of all, you shall have of them that will suffer for *Atheism* and not recant; whereas if they did truly think, that there were no such thing as *God*, why should they trouble themselves? *Epicurus* is charged, that he did but dissemble for his credits sake, when he affirmed, there were *Blessed Natures*, but such as enjoyed themselves, without having respect to, the Government of the World: wherein, they say, he did temporize; though in secret he thought there was no God. But certainly he is traduced; for his Words are Noble and Divine; *Non Deos vulgi negare profanum, sed vulgi Opiniones Diis applicare profanum. Plato* could have said no more. And although he had the confidence to deny the *Administration*, he had not the power to deny the *Nature*. The *Indians* of the *West* have names for their particular *gods*, though they have no name for *God*; as if the *Heathens* should have had

had the names of *Jupiter*, *Apollo*, *Mars*, &c. but not the word *Deus*: which shews, that even those barbarous People have the notion, though they have not the latitude and extent of it. So that against *Atheists* the very Savages take part with the very subtilest Philosophers: The Contemplative *Atheist* is rare: A *Diagoras*, a *Bion*, a *Lucian* perhaps, and some others; and yet they seem to be more than they are: For that all that impugn a received *Religion* or *Superstition*, are by the adverse part branded with the name of *Atheists*. But the great *Atheists* indeed are *Hypocrites*, which are ever handling Holy things, but without feeling; so as they must needs be cauterized in the end. The *Causes* of *Atheism* are *Divisions* in *Religion*, if they be many: for any one main *Division* addeth Zeal to both sides, but many Divisions introduce *Atheism*. Another is *Scandal* of *Priests*, when it is come to that which Saint *Bernard* saith, *Non est jam dicere, ut populus, sic sacerdos: quia nec sic populus, ut sacerdos.* A third is, Custom of *Prophane Scoffing* in *Holy Matters*, which doth by little and little deface the Reverence of Religion. And lastly, *Learned Times*, especially with peace and prosperity: for troubles and adversities do more bow Mens minds to *Religion*. They that deny a *God*, destroy Mans Nobility: for certainly Man is of kin to the Beasts by his Body; and if he be not of kin to *God* by his Spirit; he is a base and ignoble Creature. It destroys likewise Magnanimity, and the raising Humane Nature:

ture: for take an example of a Dog, and mark what a generosity and courage he will put on, when he finds himself maintained by a Man, who to him is instead of a *God*, or *Melior natura*: Which courage is manifestly such, as that Creature without the confidence of a better Nature than his own, could never attain. So Man, when he resteth and assureth himself upon Divine protection and favour, gathereth a force and faith, which Human Nature in it self could not obtain. Therefore as *Atheism* is in all respects hateful, so in this, that it depriveth human Nature of the means to exalt it self above Human Frailty. As it is in particular Persons, so it is in Nations. Never was there such a *State* for Magnanimity, as *Rome*. Of this *State* hear what *Cicero* saith, *Quam volumus, licet, Patres Conscripti, nos amemus, tamen nec numero Hispanos, nec robore Gallos, nec calliditate Pœnos, nec artibus Græcos; nec denique hoc ipso hujus Gentis & Terræ domestico nativoque sensu Italos ipsos & Latinos; sed Pietate ac Religione, atque hac una Sapientia, quod Deorum Immortalium Numine, omnia regi gubernarique perspeximus, omnes Gentes Nationesque superavimus.*

Of

XVII.

Of Superstition.

IT were better to have no opinion of *God* at all, than such an opinion as is unworthy of him: For the one is Unbelief, the other is Contumely; and certainly *Superstition* is the reproach of the *Deity*. *Plutarch* saith well to that purpose: *Surely* (saith he) *I had rather a great deal men should say, there was no such man at all as* Plutarch, *than that they should say, that there was one* Plutarch, *that would eat his Children as soon as they were born*; as the Poets speak of *Saturn*. And as the Contumely is greater towards *God*, so the Danger is greater towards Men. *Atheism* leaves a man to Sense, to Philosophy, to Natural Piety, to Laws, to Reputation; all which may be guides to an outward Moral Vertue, though *Religion* were not; But *Superstition* dismounts all these, and erecteth an absolute Monarchy in the minds of Men. Therefore *Atheism* did never perturb *States*; for it makes men weary of themselves, as looking no further: And we see the times inclined to *Atheism* (as the time of *Augustus Cæsar*) were civil times. But *Superstition* hath been the Confusion of many States, and bringeth in a new *Primum Mobile*, that ravisheth all the Spheres of Government. The Master of *Superstition* is the People; and in all *Superstition*,

tion, Wiſe men follow Fools, and Arguments are fitted to Practice in a reverſed order. It was gravely ſaid by ſome of the Prelates in the *Council* of *Trent*, where the Doctrine of the Schoolmen bare great ſway, *That the School-men were like Aſtronomers, which did feign Eccentricks, and Epicycles, and ſuch engins of Orbs, to ſave the Phenomena; though they knew there were no ſuch things.* And in like manner, that the Schoolmen had framed a number of ſubtile and intricate *Axioms* and *Theorems*, to ſave the practice of the Church. The *Cauſes* of *Superſtitions* are, pleaſing and ſenſual Rites and Ceremonies: Exceſs of Outward and Phariſaical Holineſs: Over-great Reverence of Traditions, which cannot but load the Church: the Stratagems of Prelates for their own Ambition and Lucre: the favouring too much of good Intentions, which openeth the Gate to Conceits and Novelties: the taking an Aim at Divine Matters by Human, which cannot but breed mixture of Imaginations: And laſtly, Barbarous Times, eſpecially joyned with Calamities and Diſaſters. *Superſtition* without a veil is a deformed thing; for, as it addeth deformity to an Ape to be ſo like a Man: ſo the ſimilitude of *Superſtition* to *Religion* makes it the more deformed. And as wholſome Meat corrupteth to little Worms: ſo good Forms and Orders corrupt into a Number of petty Obſervances. There is a *Superſtition* in avoiding *Superſtition*, when men think to do beſt, if they go furtheſt from the *Superſtition* formerly received.

Therefore

Therefore Care would be had, that (as it fareth in ill Purgings) the good be not taken away with the bad, which commonly is done, when the People is the Reformer.

XVIII.

Of Travel.

TRAVEL, in the younger Sort, is a part of Education; in the elder, a part of Experience. He that *Travelleth* into a Country before he hath some Entrance into the Language, goeth to *School* and not to *Travel*. That young men *Travel* under some Tutor, or grave Servant, I allow well, so that he be such a one that hath the Language, and hath been in the Countrey before, whereby he may be able to tell them, what things are worthy to be seen in the Countrey where they go, what Acquaintances they are to seek, what Exercises or Discipline the Place yieldeth. For else young men shall go hooded, and look abroad little. It is a strange thing, that in Sea-voyages, where there is nothing to be seen but Sky and Sea, men should make Diaries; but in *Land-Travel*, wherein so much is to be observed, for the most part they omit it; as if Chance were fitter to be registred than Observation. Let Diaries therefore be brought in use. The things to be seen and observed are the Courts of Princes, especially when they give Audience

dience to Embassadors: The Courts of Justice, while they sit and hear Causes; and so of Consistories Ecclesiastick: the Churches and Monasteries, with the Monuments which are therein extant: the Walls and Fortifications of Cities and Towns; and so the Havens and Harbors: Antiquities and Ruins: Libraries, Colleges, Disputations and Lectures, where any are: Shipping and Navies: Houses and Gardens of State and Pleasure near great Cities: Armories, Arsenals, Magazines, Exchanges, Burses, Ware-houses: Exercises of Horsmanship, Fencing, Training of Souldiers, and the like: Comedies, such whereunto the better sort of Persons do resort. Treasures of Jewels and Robes: Cabinets and Rarities. And to conclude, whatsoever is memorable in the Places where they go. After all which the Tutors or Servants ought to make diligent enquiry. As for Triumphs, Masques, Feasts, Weddings, Funerals, Capital Executions, and such Shews; Men need not to be put in mind of them; yet are they not to be neglected. If you will have a young man to put his *Travel* into a little room, and in short time to gather much, this you must do. First, as we said, he must have some entrance into the Language before he goeth. Then he must have such a Servant or Tutor as knoweth the Countrey, as was likewise said. Let him carry with him also some Card or Book, describing the Countrey where he *Travelleth*, which will be a good key to his Enquiry. Let him keep also a Diary. Let him not stay

long

long in one City of Town, more or less, as the Place deserveth, but not long: Nay, when he stayeth in one City or Town, let him change his Lodging from one end and part of the Town to another, which is a great Adamant of Acquaintance. Let him sequester himself from the Company of his Country-men, and diet in such Places where there is good Company of the Nation where he *Travelleth*. Let him upon his Removes from one Place to another, procure recommendation to some Person of Quality, residing in the Place whither he removeth, that he may use his Favour in those things he desireth to see or know. Thus he may abridge his *Travels* with much profit. As for the Acquaintance which is to be sought in *Travel*, that which is most of all profitable, is Acquaintance with the Secretaries and employed Men of Embassadors; for so in *Travelling* in one Country, he shall suck the experience of many. Let him also see and visit eminent Persons, in all kinds, which are of great Name abroad; that he may be able to tell how the Life agreeth with the Fame. For Quarrels, they are with Care and Discretion to be avoided: They are commonly for Mistrisses, Healths, Place, and Words. And let a Man beware how he keepeth Company with Cholerick and Quarrelsome Persons, for they will engage him into their own Quarrels. When a *Traveller* returneth home, let him not leave the Countries where he hath *Travelled*, altogether behind him, but maintain a Correspondency by Letters with those of his Acquaintance

quaintance which are of moſt worth. And let his *Travel* appear rather in his Diſcourſe, than in his Apparel or Geſture; and in his Diſcourſe let him be rather adviſed in his Anſwers, than forward to tell Stories: And let it appear, that he doth not change his Country Manners for thoſe of Foreign Parts; but only prick in ſome Flowers of that he hath learned abroad, into the Cuſtoms of his own Country.

XIX.

Of Empire.

IT is a miſerable State of Mind, to have few things to deſire, and many things to fear, and yet that commonly is the Caſe of *Kings*, who being at the higheſt, want matter of deſire, which makes their minds more languiſhing, and have many Repreſentations of Perils and Shadows, which makes their minds the leſs clear. And this is one reaſon alſo of that effect which the Scripture ſpeaketh of; *That the King's heart is inſcrutable.* For, multitude of Jealouſies, and lack of ſome predominant deſire that ſhould marſhal and put in order all the reſt, maketh any Mans heart hard to find or ſound. Hence it comes likewiſe, that *Princes* many times make themſelves Deſire, and ſet their Hearts upon Toys: ſometimes upon a Building, ſometimes upon erecting of an Order, ſometimes upon

the advancing of a Person, sometimes upon obtaining excellency in some Art or Feat of the Hand; as *Nero* for playing on the Harp, *Domitian* for Certainty of the Hand with the Arrow, *Commodus* for playing at Fence, *Caracalla* for driving Chariots, and the like. This seemeth incredible unto those that know not the principal; *That the mind of Man is more cheared and refreshed by profiting in small things, than by standing at a stay in great.* We see also that the *Kings* that have been fortunate Conquerours in their first years, it being not possible for them to go forward infinitely, but that they must have some check or arrest in their Fortunes, turn in their latter years to be Superstitious and Melancholy: as did *Alexander* the Great, *Diocletian*; and in our memory, *Charles* the Fifth, and others: For he that is used to go forward, and findeth a stop, falleth out of his own favour, and is not the thing he was.

To speak now of the true Temper of *Empire*: It is a thing rare, and hard to keep; for both Temper and Distemper consist of Contraries. But it is one thing to mingle Contraries, another to enterchange them. The Answer of *Apollonius* to *Vespasian* is full of excellent Instruction; *Vespasian* asked him, *What was* Nero's *overthrow?* He answered, Nero *could touch and tune the Harp well, but in Government sometimes he used to wind the pins too high, sometimes to let them down too low.* And certain it is, that nothing destroyeth Authority so much, as the unequal and

untimely

untimely enterchange of Power *Preſſed* too far, and *Relaxed* too much.

This is true, that the Wiſdom of all theſe latter Times in *Princes* Affairs, is rather fine Deliveries, and Shiftings of Dangers and Miſchiefs, when they are near, than ſolid and grounded Courſes to keep them aloof. But this is but to try Maſteries with Fortune: and let men beware how they neglect and ſuffer matter of Trouble to be prepared: for no man can forbid the ſpark, nor tell whence it may come. The difficulties in *Princes* Buſineſs are many and great; but the greateſt difficulty is often in their own mind. For it is common with *Princes* (ſaith *Tacitus*) to will Contradictories. *Sunt plerumque Regum voluntates vehementes, & inter ſe contrariæ.* For it is the Soleciſm of Power, to think to Command the end, and yet not endure the means.

Kings have to deal with their *Neighbours*, their *Wives*, their *Children*, their *Prelates* or *Clergie*, their *Nobles*, their *Second Nobles* or *Gentlemen*, their *Merchants*, their *Commons*, and their *Men of War*. And from all theſe ariſe Dangers, if Care and Circumſpection be not uſed.

Firſt, For their *Neighbours*: There can no general Rule be given (the occaſions are ſo variable) ſave one, which ever holdeth, which is, That *Princes* do keep due Centinel, that none of their *Neighbours* do over-grow ſo, (by increaſing of Territory, by embracing of Trade, by Approaches, or the like) as they become more able to annoy them, than they were. This is gene-

rally the work of ſtanding Counſels to foreſee, and to hinder it. During that *Triumvirate* of *Kings*, *King Henry* the 8. of *England*, *Francis* the 1. *King* of *France*, and *Charles* the 5. *Emperour*, there was ſuch a Watch kept, that none of the Three could win a Palm of Ground, but the other Two would ſtraight-ways ballance it, either by Confederation, or if need were, by a War, and would not in any wiſe take up Peace at Intereſt. And the like was done by that League, (which, *Guicciardine* ſaith, was the Security of *Italy*) made between *Ferdinando* King of *Naples*, *Lorenzius Medices*, and *Ludovicus Sforza*, Potentate, the one of *Florence*, the other of *Milain*. Neither is the opinion of ſome of the School-men to be received; *That a War cannot juſtly be made but upon a precedent Injury or Provocation.* For there is no queſtion, but a juſt Fear of an imminent Danger, though there be no Blow given, is a lawful Cauſe of a War.

For their *Wives*: There are cruel examples of them. *Livia* is infamed for the poyſoning of her Husband: *Roxalana*, *Solyman*'s Wife, was the deſtruction of that renowned Prince, *Sultan Muſtapha*, and otherwiſe troubled his Houſe and Succeſſion: *Edward* the Second of *England*, his Queen had the principal hand in the depoſing and murther of her Husband. This kind of danger is then to be feared, chiefly when the *Wives* have Plots for the raiſing of their own Children, or elſe that they be Advoutreſſes.

For

For their *Children*: The Tragedies likewiſe of dangers from them have been many. And generally the entring of Fathers into ſuſpicion of their *Children*, hath been ever unfortunate. The deſtruction of *Muſtapha* (that we named before) was ſo fatal to *Solyman*'s Line, as the *Succeſſion* of the *Turks* from *Solyman* until this day, is ſuſpected to be untrue, and of ſtrange blood; for that *Selymus* the ſecond was thought to be ſuppoſititious. The deſtruction of *Criſpus*, a young Prince, of rare towardneſs, by *Conſtantinus* the Great, his Father, was in like manner fatal to his Houſe; for both *Conſtantinus* and *Conſtance* his Son died violent Deaths; and *Conſtantius* his other Son did little better, who died indeed of Sickneſs, but after that *Julianus* had taken Arms againſt him. The deſtruction of *Demetrius*, Son to *Philip* the Second of *Macedon*, turned upon the Father, who died of Repentance. And many like Examples there are, but few or none where the Fathers had good by ſuch diſtruſt, except it were where the Sons were up in open Arms againſt them; as was *Selymus* the firſt againſt *Bajazet*, and the three Sons of *Henry* the Second, King of *England*.

For their *Prelates*: When they are proud and great, there is alſo danger from them; as it was in the times of *Anſelmus* and *Thomas Becket*, Arch-Biſhops of *Canterbury*, who with their Croſiers did almoſt try it with the Kings Sword; and yet they had to deal with ſtout and haughty Kings; *William Rufus*, *Henry* the Firſt, and

Henry the Second. The danger is not from the *State*, but where it hath a dependance of Foreign Authority; or where the Church-men come in, and are elected, not by the collation of the King, or particular Patrons, but by the People.

For their *Nobles*: To keep them at a diſtance it is not amiſs, but to depreſs them may make a King more abſolute, but leſs ſafe, and leſs able to perform any thing that he deſires. I have noted it in my Hiſtory of King *Henry* the Seventh, of *England*, who depreſſed his *Nobility*; whereupon it came to paſs, that his times were full of Difficulties and Troubles; for the *Nobility*, though they continued loyal unto him, yet did they not co-operate with him in his buſineſs; ſo that in effect he was fain to do all things himſelf.

For their *Second Nobles*: There is not much danger from them, being a Body diſperſed. They may ſometimes diſcourſe high, but that doth little hurt. Beſides they are a counterpoize to the higher *Nobility*, that they grow not too potent: and laſtly, being the moſt immediate in Authority with the Common People, they do beſt temper popular Commotions.

For their *Merchants*: They are *Vena portæ*; and if they flouriſh not, a Kingdom may have good Limbs, but will have empty Veins, and nouriſh little. Taxes and Impoſts upon them, do ſeldom good to the King's Revenue; for that he wins in the Hundred, he leeſeth in the Shire; the

the particular Rates being increaſed, but the total bulk of Trading rather decreaſed.

For their *Commons:* There is little danger from them, except it be where they have great and potent Heads, or where you meddle with the point of Religion, or their Cuſtoms, or means of Life.

For their *Men of War*: It is a dangerous State, where they live and remain in a Body, and are uſed to Donatives, whereof we ſee examples in the *Janizaries* and *Pretorian* Bands of *Rome*: But Trainings of Men, and Arming them in ſeveral places, and under ſeveral Commanders, and without Donatives, are things of Defence, and no danger.

Princes are like to *Heavenly Bodies*, which cauſe good or evil times; and which have much *Veneration*, but no *Reſt*. All Precepts concerning *Kings*, are in effect comprehended in thoſe two Remembrances, *Memento quod es Homo*, and *Memento quod es Deus*, or *Vice Dei*; the one bridleth their Power, and the other their Will.

XX.

Of Counſel.

THE greateſt truſt between Man and Man is the truſt of *Giving Counſel*: For in other confidences Men commit the parts of Life, their Lands, their Goods, their Children, their Credit, ſome particular Affair: but to ſuch as they make

their *Counsellors*, they commit the whole, by how much the more they are obliged to all faith and integrity. The wisest *Princes* need not think it any diminution to their Greatness, or derogation to their Sufficiency, to rely upon *Counsel*. *God* himself is not without, but hath made it one of the great Names of his blessed Son: The *Counsellor*. *Solomon* hath pronounced, *that in Counsel is Stability.* Things will have their first or second agitation; if they be not tossed upon the arguments of *Counsel*, they will be tossed upon the waves of *Fortune*, and be full of inconstancy, doing and undoing, like the reeling of a drunken man. *Solomon*'s Son found the force of *Counsel*, as his Father saw the necessity of it. For the beloved Kingdom of God was first rent and broken by ill *Counsel*; upon which *Counsel* there are set for instruction the two marks, whereby *Bad Counsel* is for ever best discerned, that it was *young Counsel* for the Persons, and *violent Counsel* for the Matter.

The ancient times do set forth in figure, both the incorporation, and inseparable conjunction of *Counsel* with *Kings*, and the wise and politick use of *Counsel* by *Kings*; the one in that they say, *Jupiter* did marry *Metis*, which signifieth *Counsel*, whereby they intend that *Soveraignty* is married to *Counsel*; the other in that which followeth, which was thus: They say, after *Jupiter* was married to *Metis*, she conceived by him, and was with Child: but *Jupiter* suffered her not to stay till she brought forth, but eat her up;

whereby

whereby he became himſelf with Child, and was delivered of *Pallas Armed* out of his Head; which monſtrous Fable containeth a ſecret of *Empire*, how *Kings* are to make uſe of their *Council of State*. That firſt they ought to refer matters unto them, which is the firſt begetting or impregnation; but when they are elaborate, moulded, and ſhaped in the womb of their *Council*, and grow ripe, and ready to be brought forth, that then they ſuffer not their *Council* to go through with the reſolution and direction, as if it depended on them; but take the matter back into their own hands, and make it appear to the World, that the Decrees and final Directions (which, becauſe they come forth with *Prudence* and *Power*, are reſembled to *Pallas Armed*) proceeded from themſelves: And not only from their *Authority*, but (the more to add reputation to themſelves) from their *Head* and *Device*.

Let us now ſpeak of the *Inconveniences* of *Counſel*, and of the *Remedies*. The *Inconveniences* that have been noted in calling and uſing *Counſel*, are three: Firſt, the revealing of Affairs, whereby they become leſs ſecret. Secondly, the weakning of the Authority of Princes, as if they were leſs of themſelves. Thirdly, the danger of being unfaithfully *Counſelled*, and more for the good of them that *Counſel*, than of him that is *Counſelled*. For which *Inconveniences*, the Doctrine of *Italy*, and practice of *France* in ſome Kings times, hath introduced *Cabinet Councils*; a Remedy worſe than the Diſeaſe.

As

As to *Secrecy*: *Princes* are not bound to *communicate* all matters with all *Counsellors*, but extract and select. Neither is it necessary, that he that consulteth what he should do, should declare what he will do. But let *Princes* beware, that the *unsecreting* of their Affairs comes not from themselves. And as for *Cabinet Counsels*, it may be their *Motto*; *Plenus rimarum sum*: One futile Person, that maketh it his glory to tell, will do more hurt, than many that know it their duty to conceal. It is true, there be some Affairs which require extream *Secrecy*, which will hardly go beyond one or two Persons beside the *King*: Neither are those *Counsels* unprosperous; for besides the *Secrecy*, they commonly go on constantly in one Spirit of Direction without distraction. But then it must be a prudent King, such as is able to grind with a *Hand-mill*; and those *Inward Counsellors* had need also be wise Men, and especially true and trusty to the Kings ends; as it was with King *Henry* the Seventh, of *England*, who in his greatest business imparted himself to none, except it were to *Morton* and *Fox*.

For *weakning of Authority*: The Fable sheweth the *Remedy*. Nay, the Majesty of Kings is rather exalted than diminished, when they are in the Chair of *Counsel*. Neither was there ever *Prince* bereaved of his dependencies by his *Counsel*, except where there hath been either an over-greatness in one *Counsellor*, or an over-strict combination in divers, which are things soon found and holpen.

For

For the laſt *Inconvenience*, that Men will *Counſel with an Eye to themſelves*: Certainly, *Non inveniet fidem ſuper terram*, is meant of the nature of times, and not of all particular Perſons. There be, that are in nature, faithful, and ſincere, and plain, and direct, not crafty and involved: Let *Princes* above all draw to themſelves ſuch natures. Beſides *Counſellors* are not commonly ſo united, but that one *Counſellor* keepeth Centinel over another; ſo that if any do *Counſel*, out of faction, or private ends, it commonly comes to the King's Ear. But the beſt *Remedy* is, if *Princes* know their *Counſellors* as well as their *Counſellors* know them:

Principis eſt virtus maxima noſſe ſuos.

And on the other ſide, *Counſellors* ſhould not be too ſpeculative into their Soveraigns Perſon. The true compoſition of a *Counſellor*, is rather to be skill'd in their Maſters Buſineſs, than in his Nature; for then he is like to adviſe him, and not to feed his humour. It is of ſingular uſe to *Princes*, if they take the Opinions of their *Counſel*, both ſeparately and together. For private opinion is more free, but opinion before others is more reverend. In private, Men are more bold in their own humours; and in conſort, Men are more obnoxious to others humours: therefore it is good to take both. And of the inferiour ſort, rather in private, to preſerve freedom; of the greater, rather in conſort,

to

to preſerve reſpect. It is vain for *Princes* to take *Counſel*, concerning *Matters*, if they take no *Counſel* likewiſe concerning *Perſons*: for all *Matters* are as dead Images; and the life of the execution of Affairs reſteth in the good choice of *Perſons*. Neither is it enough to conſult concerning Perſons, *ſecundum genera* as in an *Idea* or *Mathematical Deſcription*, what the kind and character of the *Perſon* ſhould be; for the greateſt errors are committed, and the moſt judgment is ſhewn in the choice of *Individuals*. It was truly ſaid, *Optimi Conſiliarii mortui*; *Books* will ſpeak plain when *Counſellors* blanch. Therefore it is good to be converſant in them, eſpecially the *Books* of ſuch as themſelves have been Actors upon the Stage.

The *Councils* at this day in moſt places are but familiar meetings, where matters are rather talked on than debated. And they run too ſwift to the Order or Act of *Counſel*. It were better, that in Cauſes of weight, the Matter were propounded one day, and not ſpoken till the next day, *In nocte Conſilium*. So was it done in the Commiſſion of *Union* between *England* and *Scotland*, which was a grave and orderly Aſſembly. I commend ſet days for Petitions: for it gives both the Suitors more certainty for their attendance, and it frees the meetings for matters of Eſtate, that they may *Hoc agere*. In choice of Committees for ripening Buſineſs for the *Council*, it is better to chuſe indifferent Perſons, than to make an Indifferency, by putting in thoſe that are

are strong on both sides. I commend also standing *Commissions*; as for Trade, for Treasure, for War, for Suits, for some Provinces: For where there be divers particular *Councils*, and but one *Council* of *State*, (as it is in *Spain*) they are in effect no more than standing *Commissions*; save that they have greater Authority. Let such as are to inform *Councils* out of their particular Professions (as Lawyers, Sea-men, Mint-men, and the like) be first heard before *Committees*, and then, as occasion serves, before the *Council*. And let them not come in multitudes, or in a Tribunitious manner; for that is to clamour *Councils*, not to inform them. A long Table, and a square Table, or Seats about the Walls, seem things of Form, but are things of Substance; for at a long Table, a few at the upper end in effect sway all the business; but in the other Form, there is more use of the *Counsellors* Opinions that sit lower. A *King*, when he presides in *Council*, let him beware how he opens his own inclination too much in that which he propoundeth; for else *Counsellors* will but take the wind of him, and instead of giving *Free Counsel*, sing him a Song of *Placebo*.

XXI.

Of Delays.

FORTUNE is like the *Market*, where many times if you can ſtay a little, the Price will fall. And again, it is ſometimes like *Sibylla*'s Offer, which at firſt offereth the Commodity at full, then conſumeth part and part; and ſtill holdeth up the Price. For *Occaſion* (as it is in the Common Verſe) *turneth a bald Noddle, after ſhe hath preſented her Locks in Front, and no hold taken*; or at leaſt turneth the handle of the Bottle firſt to be received, and after the Belly, which is hard to claſp. There is ſurely no greater Wiſdom, than well to time the Beginnings and Onſets of Things. Dangers are no more light, if they once ſeem light; and more Dangers have deceived Men, than forced them. Nay, it were better to meet ſome Dangers half way, though they come nothing near, than to keep too long a watch upon their Approaches; for if a Man watch too long, it is odds he will fall aſleep. On the other ſide, to be deceived with two long Shadows (as ſome have been, when the Moon was low, and ſhone on their Enemies back,) and ſo to ſhoot off before the time; or to teach Dangers to come on, by over-early Buckling towards them, is another extream. The Ripeneſs or Unripeneſs of the Occaſion,

(as

(as we ſaid) muſt ever be well weighed; and generally it is good to commit the Beginnings of all great Actions to *Argus* with his hundred eyes, and the Ends to *Briareus* with his hundred hands; firſt to Watch, and then to ſpeed. For the *Helmet* of *Pluto*, which maketh the Politick Man go inviſible, is *Secrecy* in the Counſel, and *Celerity* in the Execution. For when things are once come to the Execution, there is no *Secrecy* comparable to *Celerity*; like the motion of a Bullet in the air, which flyeth ſo ſwift, as it outruns the Eye.

XXII.

Of Cunning.

WE take *Cunning* for a Siniſter or Crooked Wiſdom. And certainly there is great difference between a *Cunning* Man and a *Wiſe* Man, not only in point of Honeſty, but in point of Ability. There be that can pack the Cards, and yet cannot play well: ſo there are ſome that are good in Canvaſſes and Factions, that are otherwiſe Weak Men. Again, it is one thing to underſtand Perſons, and another thing to underſtand Matters; for many are perfect in Mens Humours, that are not greatly capable of the real part of Buſineſs, which is the Conſtitution of one that hath ſtudied Men more than Books. Such Men are fitter for Practice than for Counſel: and they

and they are good but in their own Alley, turn them to new men, and they have loſt their Aim: ſo as the old Rule to know a Fool from a Wiſe man; *Mitte ambos nudos ad ignotos, & videbis*, doth ſcarce hold for them. And becauſe theſe *Cunning Men* are like Haberdaſhers of ſmall Wares, it is not amiſs to ſet forth their ſhop.

It is a point of *Cunning* to wait upon him, with whom you ſpeak, with your eye, as the Jeſuits give it in precept: For there may be many wiſe men that have ſecret Hearts and tranſparent Countenances. Yet this would be done with a demure Abaſing of your eye ſometimes, as the Jeſuits alſo do uſe.

Another is, that when you have any thing to obtain of preſent diſpatch, you entertain and amuſe the party with whom you deal, with ſome other Diſcourſe, that he be not too much awake to make Objections. I knew a *Counſellor* and *Secretary*, that never came to Queen *Elizabeth* of *England* with Bills to ſign, but he would always firſt put her into ſome Diſcourſe of Eſtate, that ſhe might the leſs mind the Bills.

The like ſurprize may be made by moving things, when the party is in haſte, and cannot ſtay to conſider adviſedly of that is moved.

If a Man would croſs a Buſineſs, that he doubts ſome other would handſomely and effectually move, let him pretend to wiſh it well, and move it himſelf in ſuch ſort as may foyl it.

The

The breaking off in the midſt of that, one was about to ſay, as if he took himſelf up, breeds a greater Appetite in him with whom you confer to know more.

And becauſe it works better, when any thing ſeemeth to be gotten from you by Queſtion, than if you offer it of your ſelf; you may lay a Bait for a Queſtion, by ſhewing another Viſage and Countenance than you are wont; to the end, to give occaſion for the party to ask, what the matter is of the Change, as *Nehemiah* did; *And I had not before that time been ſad before the King.*

In things that are tender and unpleaſing, it is good to break the Ice by ſome whoſe words are of leſs weight, and to reſerve the more weighty voice to come in as by chance, ſo that he may be asked the Queſtion upon the other Speech; as *Narciſſus* did in relating to *Claudius* the marriage of *Meſſalina* and *Silius.*

In things that a man would not be ſeen in himſelf, it is a point of *Cunning* to borrow the name of the World, as to ſay; *The World ſays*, or, *There is a ſpeech abroad.*

I knew one, that when he wrote a Letter, he would put that which was moſt material in the *Poſtſcript*, as if it had been a By-matter.

I knew another, that when he came to have ſpeech, he would paſs over that he intended moſt, and go forth, and come back again and ſpeak of it, as a thing that he had almoſt forgot.

Some procure themſelves to be ſurprized at ſuch times, as it is like the party that they work upon will ſuddenly come upon them, and to be found with a Letter in their hand, or doing ſomewhat which they are not accuſtomed; to the end they may be oppoſed of thoſe things, which of themſelves they are deſirous to utter.

It is a point of *Cunning*, to let fall thoſe Words in a mans own Name, which he would have another man learn and uſe, and thereupon take advantage. I knew two that were Competitors for the Secretaries Place, in Queen *Elizabeth*'s time, and yet kept good Quarter between themſelves, and would confer one with another upon the Buſineſs; and one of them ſaid, That to be a Secretary in the *Declination of a Monarchy*, was a tickliſh thing, and that he did not affect it: the other ſtrait caught up thoſe Words, and diſcourſed with divers of his Friends, That he had no reaſon to deſire to be a Secretary in the *Declining of a Monarchy*. The firſt man took hold of it, and found means it was told the *Queen*, Who hearing of a *Declination of a Monarchy*, took it ſo ill, as ſhe would never after hear of the other's Suit.

There is a *Cunning*, which we in *England* call, *The turning of the Cat in Pan*; which is, when that which a man ſays to another, he lays it as if another had ſaid it to him; and to ſay truth, it is not eaſie, when ſuch a matter paſs'd between two, to make it appear from which of them it firſt moved and began.

It

It is a way that ſome men have to glance and dart at others, by juſtifying themſelves by Negatives; as to ſay, *This I did not*: As *Tigellinus* did towards *Burrhus*; *Se non diverſas ſpes, ſed incolumitatem Imperatoris ſimpliciter ſpectare.*

Some have in readineſs ſo many Tales and Stories, as there is nothing they would inſinuate, but they can wrap it into a Tale, which ſerveth both to keep themſelves more in Guard, and carry it with more Pleaſure.

It is a good point of *Cunning*, for a man to ſhape the Anſwer he would have in his own Words and Propoſitions; for it makes the other party ſtick the leſs.

It is ſtrange, how long ſome men will lye in wait to ſpeak ſomewhat they deſire to ſay, and how far about they will fetch, and how many other matters they will beat over to come near it; it is a thing of great Patience, but yet of much Uſe.

A ſudden, bold, and unexpected Queſtion, doth many times ſurprize a man, and lay him open: Like to him, that having changed his Name, and walked in *Pauls*, another ſuddenly came behind him, and called him by his true Name, whereat ſtreight-ways he looked back.

But theſe ſmall Wares, and petty points of *Cunning* are infinite; and it were a good deed to make a Liſt of them: for that nothing doth more hurt in a State, than that *Cunning Men* paſs for *Wiſe*.

But certainly some there are, that know the Resorts and Falls of Business, that cannot sink into the Main of it: Like a House that hath convenient Stairs and Entries, but never a fair Room. Therefore you shall see them find out pretty Looses in the Conclusion, but are no ways able to examine or debate Matters: and yet commonly they take advantage of their Inability, and would be thought Wits of direction. Some build rather upon the abusing of others, and (as we now say) *Putting tricks upon them*; than upon the soundness of their own proceedings. But *Solomon* saith, *Prudens advertit ad gressus suos, Stultus divertit ad dolos.*

XXIII.

Of Wisdom for a Mans self.

AN *Ant* is a *wise creature* for it self, but it is a shrewd thing in an Orchard or Garden. And certainly men that are great *Lovers* of *Themselves*, waste the Publick. Divide with reason between *Self-love* and *Society*, and be so true to thy *Self*, as thou be not false to others, especially to thy King and Country. It is a poor Center of a mans Actions, *Himself*. It is right Earth; for that only stands fast upon its own Center; whereas all things that have Affinity with the *Heavens*, move upon the Center of another which they benefit. The referring of all to a

Mans

Mans Self, is more tolerable in a Soveraign Prince; becauſe *Themſelves* are not only *Themſelves*; but their Good and Evil is at the peril of the publick Fortune. But it is a deſperate Evil in a Servant to a Prince, or a Citizen in a Republick. For whatſoever Affairs paſs ſuch a mans hands, he crooketh them to his own ends, which muſt needs be often Eccentrick to the ends of his Maſter or State: Therefore let Princes or States chuſe ſuch Servants as have not this mark; except they mean their Service ſhould be made but the acceſſary. That which maketh the effect more pernicious, is, that all proportion is loſt; it were diſ-proportion enough for the Servants good, to be preferred before the Maſters; but yet it is a greater extream, when a little good of the Servant ſhall carry things againſt the great good of the Maſters. And yet that is the caſe of bad *Officers*, Treaſurers, Ambaſſadours, Generals, and other falſe and corrupt Servants, which ſet a Byaſs upon their Bowl, of their own petty ends and envies, to the overthrow of their Maſters great and important Affairs. And for the moſt part, the Good which Servants receive, is after the model of their own fortune; but the Hurt they ſell for that Good, is after the model of their Maſters Fortune. And certainly it is the nature of extream *Self-Lovers*, as they will ſet an Houſe on fire, if it were but to roaſt their eggs: And yet theſe men many times hold credit with their Maſters, becauſe their ſtudy is but to pleaſe them, and profit *Themſelves*; and

for either reſpect they will abandon the good of their Affairs.

Wiſdom for a Man's ſelf is in many branches thereof a depraved thing. It is the *Wiſdom of Rats*, that will be ſure to leave the Houſe ſome time before it fall. It is the *Wiſdom of the Fox*, that thruſts out the *Badger*, who digged and made room for him. It is the *Wiſdom of Crocodiles*, that ſhed tears when they would devour. But that which is ſpecially to be noted, is, that thoſe which (as *Cicero* ſays of *Pompey*) are, *Sui amantes ſine rivali*, are many times unfortunate. And whereas they have all their time ſacrific'd to *Themſelves*, they become in the end *themſelves* Sacrifices to the Inconſtancy of Fortune, whoſe wings they thought by their *Self-Wiſdom* to have pinnioned.

XXIV.

Of Innovation.

AS the births of living Creatures at firſt are ill ſhapen, ſo are all *Innovations*, which are the births of Time. Yet notwithſtanding, as thoſe that firſt bring Honour into their Family, are commonly more worthy than moſt that ſucceed: So the firſt Precedent (if it be good) is ſeldom attained by imitation. For Ill to Mans nature, as it ſtands perverted, hath a natural motion, ſtrongeſt in continuance: But Good,

as

as a forced motion, ſtrongeſt at firſt. Surely every *Medicine* is an *Innovation*; and he that will not apply new Remedies, muſt expect new Evils: for Time is the greateſt *Innovator*. And if Time of courſe alter things to the worſe, and Wiſdom and Counſel ſhall not alter them to the better, what ſhall be the end? It is true, that what is ſetled by cuſtom, though it be not good, yet at leaſt it is fit. And thoſe things which have long gone together, are as it were confederate within themſelves, whereas new things piece not ſo well: But though they help by their utility, yet, they trouble by their Inconformity. Beſides, they are like *ſtrangers*, more admired, and leſs favoured. All this is true, if Time ſtood ſtill; which contrariwiſe moveth ſo round, that a froward retention of cuſtom is as turbulent a thing, as an *Innovation*: and they that reverence too much old times, are but a ſcorn to the new. It were good therefore, that men in their *Innovations* would follow the example of Time it ſelf; which indeed *Innovateth* greatly, but quietly, and by degrees, ſcarce to be perceived: for otherwiſe whatſoever is new, is unlooked for; and ever it mends ſome, and pairs other: And he that is holpen, takes it for a Fortune, and thanks the Time; and he that is hurt, for a Wrong, and imputeth it to the Author. It is good alſo, not to try experiments in States, except the neceſſity be urgent, or the utility be evident; and well to beware, that it be the Reformation that draweth on the Change, and not the deſire of

Change that pretendeth the Reformation. And laſtly, that the *Novelty*, though it be not rejected, yet be held for a ſuſpect: And as the Scripture ſaith, *That we make a ſtand upon the ancient way, and then look about us, and diſcover what is the ſtrait and right way, and ſo to walk in it.*

XXV.

Of Diſpatch.

AFFECTED Diſpatch is one of the moſt dangerous things to buſineſs that can be. It is like that which the Phyſicians call *Pre-digeſtion*, or *Haſty Digeſtion*, which is ſure to fill the Body full of crudities, and ſecret ſeeds of Diſeaſes. Therefore meaſure not *Diſpatch* by the times of ſitting, but by the advancement of the buſineſs. And as in Races, it is not the large Stride, or high Liſt that makes the Speed; ſo in buſineſs, the keeping cloſe to the matter, and not taking of it too much at once, procureth *Diſpatch*. It is the care of ſome only to come off ſpeedily for the time, or to contrive ſome falſe periods of buſineſs, becauſe they may ſeem *Men* of *Diſpatch*. But it is one thing to abbreviate by contracting, another by cutting off; and buſineſs ſo handled at ſeveral ſittings or meetings, goeth commonly backward or forward in an unſteady manner. I knew a *Wiſe Man*, that had it for a by-word, when he ſaw men haſten to a Concluſion;

on; *Stay a little that we may make an end the ſooner.*

On the other ſide, *True Diſpatch* is a rich thing. For Time is the meaſure of Buſineſs, as Money is of Wares; and Buſineſs is bought at a dear hand, where there is ſmall *Diſpatch.* The *Spartans* and *Spaniards* have been noted to be of ſmall *Diſpatch*, *Mivenga la Muerte de Spagna*, *Let my Death come from* Spain, for then it will be ſure to be long in coming.

Give good hearing to thoſe that give the firſt Information in Buſineſs; and rather direct them in the beginning, than interrupt them in the continuance of their Speeches: for he that is put out of his own order, will go forward and backward, and more tedious while he waits upon his memory, than he could have been, if he had gone on in his own courſe. But ſometimes it is ſeen, that the Moderator is more troubleſome than the Actor.

Iterations are commonly loſs of time; but there is no ſuch gain of time, as to *iterate* often the *State* of the *Queſtion*; for it chaſeth away many a frivolous Speech as it is coming forth. Long and curious Speeches are as fit for *Diſpatch*, as a Robe or Mantle with a long train is for a Race.

Prefaces, and Paſſages, and Excuſations, and other Speeches of reference to the Perſon, are great waſters of time; and though they ſeem to proceed of modeſty, they are bravery. Yet beware of being too material, when there is any impediment or obſtruction in mens Wills; for pre-occupation of mind ever requireth preface of Speech.

Speech, like a fomentation to make the unguent enter.

Above all things, *Order*, and *Diſtribution*, and *Singling* out of *Parts* is the life of *Diſpatch*, ſo as the *Diſtribution* be not too ſubtile; for he that doth not divide, will never enter well into buſineſs: and he that divideth too much, will never come out of it clearly. To chuſe time, is to ſave time, and an unſeaſonable motion is but beating the Air. There be three parts of Buſineſs; the *Preparation*, the *Debate* or *Examination*, and the *Perfection*; whereof if you look for *Diſpatch*, let the middle only be the work of many, and the firſt and laſt the work of few. The proceeding upon ſomewhat conceived in writing, doth for the moſt part facilitate *Diſpatch*: for though it ſhould be wholly rejected, yet that *Negative* is more pregnant of direction, than an *Indefinite*; as Aſhes are more generative than Duſt.

XXVI.

Of Seeming Wiſe.

IT hath been an opinion, that the *French* are wiſer than they ſeem, and the *Spaniards* ſeem wiſer than they are. But howſoever it be between *Nations*, certainly it is ſo between Man and Man. For as the *Apoſtle* ſaith of *Godlineſs*, *Having a ſhew of Godlineſs, but denying the power thereof*;

thereof; ſo certainly there are in points of wiſdom and ſufficiency, that to do nothing or little very ſolemnly; *Magno conatu nugas.* It is a ridiculous thing, and fit for a Satyr, to perſons of judgment, to ſee what ſhifts theſe Formaliſts have, and what proſpectives to make *Superficies* to ſeem *Body*, that hath depth and bulk. Some are ſo cloſe reſerved, as they will not ſhew their Wares, but by a dark light; and ſeem always to keep back ſomewhat: And when they know within themſelves, they ſpeak of that they do not well know, would nevertheleſs ſeem to others, to know of that which they may not well ſpeak. Some help themſelves with countenance and geſture, and are wiſe by Signs; as *Cicero* ſaith of *Piſo*, that when he anſwered him, he fetched one of his Brows up to his Forehead, and bent the other down to his Chin: *Reſpondes, altero ad Frontem ſublato, altero ad Mentum depreſſo ſupercilio, crudelitatem tibi non placere.* Some think to bear it, by ſpeaking a great word, and being peremptory; and go on, and take by admittance that which they cannot make good. Some, whatſoever is beyond their reach, will ſeem to deſpiſe or make light of it, as impertinent or curious, and ſo will have their Ignorance ſeem Judgment. Some are never without a difference, and commonly by amuſing men with a ſubtilty, blanch the matter; of whom *A. Gellius* ſaith, *Hominem delirum qui verborum minutiis rerum frangit pondera.* Of which kind alſo *Plato* in his *Protagoras* bringeth in *Prodicus* in ſcorn,

and

and maketh him make a Speech, that conſiſteth of diſtinctions from the beginning to the end. Generally ſuch men in all deliberations find eaſe to be of the Negative ſide, and effect a credit to object and foretel difficulties: For when Propoſitions are denied, there is an end of them; but if they be allowed, it requireth a new work; which falſe point of wiſdom is the bane of buſineſs. To conclude, there is no decaying Merchant, or inward Beggar, hath ſo many tricks to uphold the credit of their Wealth, as theſe empty Perſons have to maintain the credit of their ſufficiency. *Seeming Wiſe Men* may make ſhift to get opinion, but let no man chuſe them for employment; for certainly you were better take for buſineſs a man ſomewhat abſurd, than over-formal

XXVII.

Of Friendſhip.

IT had been hard for him that ſpake it, to have put more truth and untruth together in few words, than in that Speech, *Whoſoever is delighted in ſolitude, is either a wild Beaſt, or a God.* For it is moſt true, that a natural and ſecret hatred, and averſation towards *Society* in any Man, hath ſomewhat of the ſavage Beaſt; but it is moſt untrue, that it ſhould have any character at all of the Divine Nature, except it proceed

ceed not out of a pleaſure in *Solitude*, but out of a love and deſire to ſequeſter a mans ſelf for a higher converſation; ſuch as is found to have been falſely and feignedly in ſome of the Heathen, as *Epimenides* the *Candian*, *Numa* the *Roman*, *Empedocles* the *Sicilian*, and *Apollonius* of *Tyana*; and truly and really in divers of the ancient Hermits, and Holy Fathers of the Church. But little do men perceive what *Solitude* is, and how far it extendeth: for a Crown is not Company, and Faces are but a Gallery of Pictures, and Talk but a *Thinking Cymbal*, where there is no *Love*. The Latine Adage meeteth with it a little, *Magna Civitas, magna ſolitudo*; becauſe in a great Town *Friends* are ſcattered, ſo that there is not that fellowſhip, for the moſt part, which is in leſs *Neighbourhoods*. But we may go further, and affirm moſt truly, that it is a meer and miſerable *ſolitude* to want *Friends*, without which the World is but a Wilderneſs: and even in this Senſe alſo of *Solitude*, whoſoever in the Frame of his Nature and Affections is unfit for *Friendſhip*, he taketh it of the Beaſt, and not from Humanity.

A Principal *Fruit* of *Friendſhip* is, the Eaſe and Diſcharge of the Fulneſs and Swellings of the Heart, which Paſſions of all kinds do cauſe and induce. We know Diſeaſes of Stoppings and Suffocations are the moſt dangerous in the Body, and it is not much otherwiſe in the Mind; You may take *Sarza* to open the Liver, *Steel* to open the Spleen, *Flower* of *Sulphur* for the Lungs,

Caſtoreum

Caſtoreum for the Brain; but no Receipt openeth the Heart, but a true Friend, to whom you may impart Griefs, Joys, Fears, Hopes, Suſpicions, Counſels, and whatſoever lieth upon the Heart to oppreſs it, in a kind of Civil Shrift or Confeſſion.

It is a ſtrange thing to obſerve, how high a Rate great Kings and Monarchs do ſet upon this *Fruit* of *Friendſhip* whereof we ſpeak; ſo great, as they purchaſe it many times at the hazard of their own Safety and Greatneſs. For Princes, in regard of the diſtance of their Fortune from that of their Subjects and Servants, cannot gather this *Fruit*, except (to make Themſelves capable thereof) they raiſe ſome Perſons to be, as it were, Companions, and almoſt Equals to themſelves, which many times ſorteth to Inconvenience. The modern Languages give unto ſuch Perſons the name of *Favorites* or *Privadoes*, as if it were matter of Grace or Converſation. But the *Roman* name attaineth the true Uſe and Cauſe thereof, naming them *Participes Curarum*; for it is that which tyeth the knot. And we ſee plainly that this hath been done, not by weak and Paſſionate *Princes* only, but by the Wiſeſt, and moſt Politick that ever reigned: who have oftentimes joyned to themſelves ſome of their Servants, whom both themſelves have called *Friends*, and allowed others likewiſe to call them in the ſame manner, uſing the word which is received between private men.

L. Sylla,

L. Sylla, when he commanded *Rome*, raiſed *Pompey* (after ſurnamed the *Great*) to that Height, that *Pompey* vaunted himſelf for *Sylla*'s Over-match: for when he had carried the *Conſulſhip* for a Friend of his againſt the purſuit of *Sylla*, and that *Sylla* did a little reſent thereat, and began to ſpeak great, *Pompey* turned upon him again, and in effect bad him be quiet; *For that more men adored the Sun-riſing than the Sun-ſetting.* With *Julius*, *Decius Brutus* had obtained that Intereſt, as he ſet him down in his Teſtament, for Heir in Remainder after his *Nephew*. And this was the man that had power with him, to draw him forth to his Death. For when *Cæſar* would have diſcharged the Senate, in regard of ſome ill preſages, and ſpecially a Dream of *Calpurnia*; This man lifted him gently by the Arm out of his Chair, telling him, he hoped he would not diſmiſs the Senate, till his Wife had dreamed a better Dream. And it ſeemeth his favour was ſo great, as *Antonius* in a Letter which is recited *verbatim* in one of *Cicero*'s *Philippiques*, called him *Veneſica*, *Witch*; as if he had enchanted *Cæſar*. *Auguſtus* raiſed *Agrippa* (though of mean Birth) to that Heighth, as when he conſulted with *Mæcenas* about the Marriage of his Daughter *Julia*, *Mæcenas* took the Liberty to tell him, *That he muſt either marry his Daughter to* Agrippa, *or take away his life, there was no third way, he had made him ſo great.* With *Tiberius Cæſar*, *Sejanus* had aſcended to that Heighth, as they two were termed and reckoned

as

as a pair of Friends. *Tiberius* in a Letter to him ſaith, *Hæc pro Amicitia noſtra non occultavi*; and the whole Senate dedicated an Altar to *Friendſhip*, as to a *Goddeſs*, in reſpect of the great Dearneſs of *Friendſhip* between them two. The like or more was between *Septimius Severus* and *Plautianus*: for he forced his eldeſt Son to marry the Daughter of *Plautianus*, and would maintain *Plautianus* in doing affronts to his Son, and did write alſo in a Letter to the Senate theſe words; *I love the Man ſo well, as I wiſh he may over-live me.* Now if theſe Princes had been as a *Trajan*, or a *Marcus Aurelius*, a Man might have thought, that this had proceeded of an abundant Goodneſs of Nature; but being men ſo Wiſe, of ſuch ſtrength and ſeverity of Mind, and ſo extream Lovers of themſelves, as all theſe were; it proveth moſt plainly, that they found their own Felicity (though as great as ever happened to mortal men) but as an half Piece, except they might have a *Friend* to make it Entire; and yet, which is more, they were *Princes* that had Wives, Sons, Nephews, and yet all theſe could not ſupply the Comfort of *Friendſhip*.

It is not to be forgotten, what *Commines* obſerveth of his Maſter, *Duke Charles* the *Hardy*; namely, That he would communicate his Secrets with none; and leaſt of all thoſe Secrets which troubled him moſt. Whereupon he goeth on, and ſaith, that towards his latter time; *That cloſeneſs did impair, and a little periſh his underſtanding.* Surely, *Commines* might have made the ſame

ſame Judgment alſo, if it had pleaſed him, of his ſecond Maſter, *Lewis* the Eleventh, whoſe Cloſeneſs was indeed his Tormentor. The Parable of *Pythagoras* is dark, but true, *Cor ne edito*, *Eat not the Heart*. Certainly if a man would give it a hard Phraſe, thoſe that want *Friends* to open themſelves unto, are Cannibals of their own *Hearts*. But one thing is moſt admirable, (wherewith I will conclude this firſt *Fruit* of *Friendſhip*,) which is, That this Communicating of a Man's Self to his *Friend*, works two contrary effects; for it redoubleth *Joys*, and cutteth *Griefs* in Halfs; for there is no man that imparteth his *Joys* to his *Friend*, but he *Joyeth* the more; and no Man that imparteth his *Griefs* to his *Friend*, but he *grieveth* the leſs. So that it is in truth of Operation upon a Man's mind of like virtue, as the *Alchymiſts* uſe to attribute to their Stone for Man's Body, that it worketh all contrary effects, but ſtill to the Good and Benefit of Nature; but yet without praying in Aid of *Alchymiſts*, there is a manifeſt Image of this in the ordinary courſe of Nature: for in Bodies *Union* ſtrengthneth and cheriſheth any natural Action; and on the other ſide, weakneth and dulleth any violent Impreſſion; and even ſo it is of Minds.

The ſecond *Fruit* of *Friendſhip* is Healthful and Soveraign for the *Underſtanding*, as the firſt is for the Affections: for *Friendſhip* maketh indeed a *fair Day* in the *Affections* from Storm and Tempeſts; but it maketh *Day-light* in the *Underſtanding*

ding out of Darkness and Confusion of Thoughts. Neither is this to be understood only of Faithful Counsel which a man receiveth from his *Friend*: but before you come to that, certain it is, that whosoever hath his Mind fraught with many Thoughts, his Wits and Understanding do clarifie and break up in the Communicating and Discoursing with another; he tosseth his Thoughts more easily, he marshalleth them more orderly, he seeth how they look when they are turned into words. Finally, he waxeth wiser than Himself; and that more by an hours Discourse, than by a days Meditation. It was well said by *Themistocles* to the King of *Persia*, *That Speech was like Cloth of Arras opened and put abroad; whereby the Imagery doth appear in Figure, whereas in Thoughts they lie but as in Packs.* Neither is this second *Fruit* of *Friendship*, in opening the *Understanding*, restrained only to such *Friends* as are able to give a Man Counsel; (they indeed are best) but even without that a Man learneth of himself, and bringeth his own Thoughts to Light, and whetteth his Wits as against a Stone, which it self cuts not. In a word, a Man were better relate himself to a Statue or Picture, than to suffer his Thoughts to pass in smother.

And now, to make this second *Fruit* of *Friendship* compleat, that other Point which lyeth more open, and falleth within Vulgar Observation, which is *Faithful Counsel* from a *Friend*. *Heraclitus* saith well in one of his Ænigma's; *Dry Light is ever the best.* And certain it is, that the Light

Light that a Man receiveth by *Counsel* from another, is drier and purer than that which cometh from his own *Understanding* and *Judgment*, which is ever infused and drenched in his *Affections* and *Customs*, so as there is as much difference between the *Counsel* that a *Friend* giveth, and that a man giveth himself, as there is between the *Counsel* of a *Friend*, and of a *Flatterer*; for there is no such *Flatterer* as in a Man's self; and there is no such remedy against *Flattery* of a man's self, as the liberty of a *Friend*. *Counsel* is of two sorts; the one concerning *Manners*, the other concerning *Business*. For the First; the best preservative to keep the Mind in Health, is the faithful Admonition of a *Friend*. The calling of a Man's self to a strict account is a Medicine sometime too piercing and Corrosive. Reading good Books of Morality, is a little Flat and Dead. Observing our Faults in others, is sometimes unproper for our case. But the best Receipt (best, I say) to work, and best to take, is the Admonition of a *Friend*. It is a strange thing to behold, what gross Errors, and extream absurdities many (especially of the greater sort) do commit, for want of a *Friend* to tell them of them, to the great damage both of their Fame and Fortune: for, as *St. James* saith, they were as Men *that look sometimes into a Glass, and presently forget their own shape and favour*. As for *Business*, a man may think, if he will, that two Eyes see no more than one; or that a Gamester seeth always more than a Looker

on; or that a Man in Anger is as wise as he that hath said over the four and twenty Letters; or that a Musket may be shot off as well upon the Arm, as upon a Rest; and such other fond and high Imaginations, to think himself All in All. But when all is done, the help of good *Counsel* is that which setteth Business streight; and if any man think that he will take *Counsel*, but it shall be by pieces, asking *Counsel* in one business of one man, and in another business of another man; it is well, (that is to say, better perhaps than if he asked none at all) but he runneth two dangers; one, that he shall not faithfully be Counselled; for it is a rare thing, except it be from a perfect and entire *Friend*, to have *Counsel* given, but such as shall be bowed and crooked to some ends, which he hath that giveth it. The other, that he shall have *Counsel* given, hurtful and unsafe, (though with good meaning) and mixt; partly of mischief, and partly of remedy: even as if you would call a Physician, that is thought good for the Cure of the Disease you complain of, but is unacquainted with your Body; and therefore may put you into a way for present Cure, but overthroweth your Health in some other kind, and so cure the Disease, and kill the Patient. But a *Friend* that is wholly acquainted with a Man's Estate, will beware by furthering any present *Business*, how he dasheth upon other inconvenience; and therefore rest not upon *scattered Counsels*, for they will rather distract and mislead, than settle and direct.

After

After these two noble *Fruits* of *Friendship* (*Peace in the Affections*, and *Support of the Judgment*) followeth the last *Fruit* which is like the *Pomegranate*, full of many kernels; I mean *Aid*, and *Bearing a part* in all *Actions* and *Occasions*. Here the best way to represent to the life the manifold use of *Friendship*, is to cast and see, how many things there are, which a man cannot do himself; and then it will appear, that it was a sparing Speech of the Ancients, to say, *That a Friend is another himself*; for that a *Friend* is far more than *himself*. Men have their time, and dye many times in desire of some things, which they principally take to *heart*; The bestowing of a Child, the finishing of a work, or the like. If a Man have a true *Friend*, he may rest almost secure, that the care of those things will continue after him: so that a Man hath as it were two Lives in his desires. A Man hath a Body, and that Body is confined to a place; but where *Friendship* is, all Offices of Life are as it were granted to him and his Deputy; for he may exercise them by his *Friend*. How many things are there, which a Man cannot, with any face or comeliness, say or do himself? A man can scarce alledg his own merits with modesty, much less extol them: A man cannot sometimes brook to supplicate or beg; and a number of the like. But all these things are graceful in a *Friend's* mouth, which are blushing in a man's own. So again, a man's Person hath many proper Relations, which he cannot put off. A man cannot

speak to his Son, but as a Father; to his Wife but as a Husband; to his Enemy, but upon terms: Whereas a *Friend* may speak as the case requires, and not as it sorteth with the Person: But to enumerate these things were endless: I have given the Rule, where a man cannot fitly play his own part: If he have not a *Friend*, he may quit the Stage.

XXVIII.

Of Expence.

RICHES are for spending, and spending for Honour and good Actions: Therefore *Extraordinary Expence* must be limited by the worth of the occasion. For *Voluntary Undoing* may be as well for a man's *Country*, as for the *Kingdom of Heaven*, but *Ordinary Expence* ought to be limited by a Man's Estate, and governed with such regard, as it be within his compass, and not subject to deceit and abuse of Servants, and ordered to the best shew, that the Bills may be less than the Estimation abroad. Certainly, if a man will keep but of even hand, his *Ordinary Expences* ought to be but to the half of his Receipts: And if he think to wax Rich, but to the third part. It is no baseness for the greatest to descend and look into their own *Estate*. Some forbear it, not upon negligence alone, but doubting to bring themselves into melancholy, in respect

ſpect they ſhall find it broken; but Wounds cannot be cured without ſearching. He that cannot look into his own Eſtate at all, had need both chuſe well thoſe whom he employeth, and change them oftner; for new are more timorous, and leſs ſubtile. He that can look into his Eſtate but ſeldom, it behoveth him to turn all to certainty. A man had need, if he be plentiful in ſome kind of *Expence*, to be as ſaving again in ſome other: as if he be plentiful in Dyet, to be ſaving in Apparel: If he be plentiful in the Hall, to be ſaving in the Stable, and the like. For he that is plentiful in *Expences* of all kinds, will hardly be preſerved from decay. In clearing of a man's Eſtate, he may as well hurt himſelf, in being in too ſudden, as in letting it run on too long. For haſty Selling is commonly as diſadvantageous as Intereſt. Beſides, he that clears at once will relapſe; for finding himſelf out of ſtreights, he will revert to his cuſtoms: But he that cleareth by degrees, induceth a habit of frugality, and gaineth as well upon his mind as upon his Eſtate. Certainly, who hath a State to repair, may not deſpiſe ſmall things: and commonly it is leſs diſhonourable to abridg petty Charges, than to ſtoop to petty Gettings. A man ought warily to begin Charges, which once begun will continue; but in matters that return not, he may be more magnificent.

XXIX.

Of the true Greatness of Kingdoms and Estates.

THE Speech of *Themistocles* the *Athenian*, which was haughty and arrogant, in taking so much to himself, had been a grave and wise observation and censure, applyed at large to others: Desired at a Feast to touch a Lute, he said, *He could not fiddle, but yet he could make a small Town a great City.* These words, (holpen a little with a Metaphor) may express two differing abilities in those that deal in business of Estate. For if a true Survey be taken of Counsellors and Statesmen, there may be found (though rarely) those which can make a *small State great*, and yet cannot *fiddle*: As on the other side, there will be found a great many that can *fiddle* very cunningly, but yet are so far from being able to make a *small State great*, as their Gift lyeth the other way, to bring a great and flourishing Estate to ruin and decay. And certainly those degenerate Arts and Shifts, whereby many Counsellors and Governors gain both favour with their Masters, and estimation with the Vulgar, deserve no better name than *Fidling*, being things rather pleasing for the time, and graceful to themselves only, than tending to the weal

weal and advancement of the State which they serve. There are also (no doubt) Counsellors and Governors which may be held sufficient (*Negotiis pares*) able to manage Affairs, and to keep them from *Precipices*, and manifest Inconveniences, which nevertheless are far from the ability to raise and amplifie an Estate in power, means, and fortune. But be the Workmen what they may be, let us speak of the Work; That is, the *true Greatness of Kingdoms and Estates*, and the *Means* thereof. An Argument fit for Great and Mighty Princes to have in their hand, to the end, that neither by overmeasuring their Forces, they leese themselves in vain Enterprises; nor on the other side, by undervaluing them, they descend to fearful and pusillanimous *Counsels*.

The *Greatness* of an Estate in Bulk and Territory, doth fall under measure; and the *Greatness* of Finances and Revenue, doth fall under computation. The Population may appear by Musters, and the Number and Greatness of Cities and Towns by Cards and Maps. But yet there is not any thing among Civil Affairs, more subject to error, than the right valuation, and true judgment, concerning the Power and Forces of an Estate.

The *Kingdom of Heaven* is compared not to any great Kernel or Nut, but to a *Grain of Mustard-seed*, which is one of the least Grains, but hath in it a property and Spirit hastily to get up and spread. So are their States great in Territory, and yet not apt to Enlarge or Command;

and

and ſome that have but a ſmall dimenſion of Stem, and yet apt to be the Foundations of great Monarchies.

Walled Towns, Stored Arſenals and Armouries, Goodly Races of Horſe, Chariots of War, Elephants, Ordnance, Artillery, and the like: All this is but a Sheep in a Lions Skin, except the breed and diſpoſition of the People be ſtout and warlike. Nay, Number (it ſelf) in Armies importeth not much, where the People is of weak courage: For, (as *Virgil* ſaith) *It never troubles a Wolf, how many the Sheep be.* The Army of the *Perſians*, in the Plains of *Arbela*, was ſuch a vaſt Sea of People, as it did ſomewhat aſtoniſh the Commanders in *Alexanders* Army; who came to him therefore, and wiſhed him to ſet upon them by night; but he anſwered, *He would not pilfer the Victory*: And the defeat was eaſie.

When *Tigranes* the *Armenian*, being encamped upon a Hill with 400000 Men, diſcovered the Army of the *Romans*, being not above 14000 marching towards him, he made himſelf merry with it, and ſaid, *Yonder Men are too many for an Ambaſſage, and too few for a Fight*: But before the Sun ſet, he found them enough to give him the Chaſe with infinite ſlaughter. Many are the examples of great odds between Number and Courage; ſo that a man may truly make a judgment, That the principal point of *Greatneſs* in any *State*, is, to have a Race of Military men. Neither is Money the Sinews of War, (as it is trivially ſaid) where the Sinews of Mens Arms

in

in Base and Effeminative People are failing. For *Solon* said well to *Crœsus*, when in ostentation he shewed him his *Gold*) *Sir, If any other come, that hath better Iron than you, he will be Master of all this Gold.* Therefore let any Prince or State think soberly of his Forces, except his *Militia* of Natives be of good and valiant Soldiers. And let Princes on the other side, that have Subjects of Martial disposition, know their own strength, unless they be otherwise wanting unto themselves. As for *Mercenary Forces*, (which is the Help in this Case) all examples shew, that whatsoever Estate or Prince doth rest upon them, *He may spread his Feathers for a time, but he will mew them soon after.*

The *Blessing* of *Judah* and *Issachar* will never meet, *That the same People or Nation should be both the Lions whelp, and Ass between Burthens:* Neither will it be, that a People over-laid with *Taxes*, should ever become Valiant and Martial. It is true, that *Taxes* levied by Consent of the State, do abate mens Courage less, as it hath been seen notably in the *Excises* of the *Low Countries*; and in some degree, in the *Subsidies* of *England*: for you must note, that we speak now of the Heart, and not of the Purse. So that although the same *Tribute* and *Tax*, laid by Consent, or by Imposing, be all one to the Purse, yet it works diversly upon the Courage: so that you may conclude, *That no People, over-charged with Tribute, is fit for Empire.*

Let

Let States that aim at *Greatness* take heed how their *Nobility* and *Gentlemen* do multiply too fast. For that maketh the Common Subject grow to be a Peasant, and base Swain, driven out of Heart, and in effect but a *Gentlemans* Labourer: even as you may see in Coppice Woods. *If you leave your Staddles too thick, you shall never have clean Underwood, but Shrubs and Bushes.* So in *Countries*, if the *Gentlemen* be too many, the *Commons* will be base: and you will bring it to that, that not the hundredth Poll will be fit for an Helmet; especially as to the *Infantry*, which is the Nerve of an Army; and so there will be great Population and little Strength. This which I speak of, hath been no where better seen, than by comparing of *England* and *France*: whereof *England*, though far less in Territory and Population, hath been nevertheless an Over-match; in regard the *Middle People* of *England* make good Soldiers, which the *Peasants* of *France* do not. And herein the device of King *Henry* the Seventh (whereof I have spoken largely in the *History of his Life*) was Profound and Admirable in making Farms and Houses of Husbandry, of a Standard; that is, maintained with such a Proportion of Land unto them, as may breed a subject to live in Convenient Plenty, and no Servile Condition; and to keep the Plough in the hands of the Owners and not meer Hirelings. And thus indeed you shall attain to *Virgil's* Character which he gives to Antient *Italy*:

——*Terra potens armisque atque ubere Gleba.*

Neither

Neither is that State (which for any thing I know, is almost peculiar to *England*, and hardly to be found any where else, except it be perhaps in *Poland*) to be passed over; I mean the *State* of *Free-Servants* and *Attendants* upon *Noblemen* and *Gentlemen*, which are no ways inferiour to the *Yeomanry* for Arms: And therefore, out of all Question, the Splendor and Magnificence, and great Retinues, and Hospitality of *Noblemen* and *Gentlemen* received into Custom, doth much conduce unto *Martial Greatness*: Whereas contrariwise, the close and reserving Living of *Noblemen* and *Gentlemen*, causeth a Penury of *Military Forces*.

By all means it is to be procured, that the *Trunk* of *Nebucadnezzars* Tree of *Monarchy*, be great enough to bear the Branches, and the Boughs; that is, That the *Natural Subjects* of the Crown or State, bear a sufficient Proportion to the *Stranger Subjects* that they govern. Therefore all States that are liberal of Naturalization towards Strangers, are fit for *Empire*. For to think that an Handful of People can with the greatest Courage and Policy in the World, embrace to large extent of Dominion, it may hold for a time, but it will fail suddenly. The *Spartans* were a nice People in point of Naturalization; whereby, while they kept their Compass, they stood firm; but when they did spread, and their Boughs were become too great for their Stem, they became a Wind-fall upon the sudden. Never any State was in this Point so open to receive *Strangers* into their Body, as were the *Romans*,

mans, therefore it sorted with them accordingly: for they grew to the greatest *Monarchy*. Their manner was to grant Naturalization, (which they called *Jus Civitatis*) and to grant it in the highest Degree; that is, not only *Jus Commercii*, *Jus Connubii*, *Jus Hæreditatis*, but also *Jus Suffragii*; and *Jus Honorum*. And this, not to singular Persons alone, but likewise to whole Families; yea, to Cities, and sometimes to Nations. Add to this their Custom of *Plantation* of *Colonies*, whereby the *Roman* Plant was removed into the Soyl of other Nations; and putting both Constitutions together, you will say, That it was not the *Romans* that spread upon the *World*, but it was the *World* that spread upon the *Romans*; and that was the sure Way of *Greatness*. I have marvelled sometimes at *Spain*, how they clasp and contain so large Dominions with so few natural *Spaniards*: but sure the whole Compass of *Spain* is a very great Body of a Tree, far above *Rome* and *Sparta* at the first: and besides, though they have not had that usage to Naturallize liberally, yet they have that which is next to it; that is, *To employ, almost indifferently, all Nations in their Militia of ordinary Soldiers:* yea, and sometimes in their *Highest Commands*. Nay, it seemeth at this instant, they are sensible of this want of Natives, as by the *Pragmatical Sanction*, now published, appeareth.

It is certain, that *Sedentary* and *Within-door Arts*, and delicate Manufactures, (that require rather the Finger, than the Arm) have in their Nature

Nature a Contrarity to a Military diſpoſition. And generally all Warlike People are a little idle, and love Danger better than Travel: neither muſt they be to much broken of it, if they ſhall be preſerved in vigour. Therefore it was great Advantage in the Ancient States of *Sparta*, *Athens*, *Rome*, and others, that they had the uſe of *Slaves*, which commonly did rid thoſe Manufactures: but that is aboliſhed in greateſt part by the *Chriſtian Law*. That which cometh neareſt to it, is, to leave thoſe Arts chiefly to Strangers (which for that purpoſe are the more eaſily to be received) and to contain the principal Bulk of the vulgar Natives within thoſe three kinds; *Tillers* of the Ground, *Free Servants*, and *Handicrafts* Men of ſtrong and manly Arts; as Smiths, Maſons, Carpenters, *&c.* not reckoning profeſſed Soldiers.

But above all, for *Empire* and *Greatneſs* it importeth moſt, that a Nation do profeſs Arms as their principal Honour, Study and Occupation: for the things which we formerly have ſpoken of, are but *Habilitations* towards Arms; and what is *Habilitation*, without *Intention* and *Act*? *Romulus* after his death (as they report or feign) ſent a Preſent to the *Romans*, that above all they ſhould intend Arms, and then they ſhould prove the greateſt *Empire* of the world. The Fabrick of the *State* of *Sparta* was wholly (though not wiſely) framed and compoſed to that Scope and End. The *Perſians* and *Macedonians* had it for a flaſh. The *Galls*, *Germans*, *Goths*, *Saxons*, *Normans*,

mans, and others had it for a time. The *Turks* have it at this day, though in great Declination. Of Christian *Europe*, they that have it, are in effect only the *Spaniards*. But it is so plain, *That every Man profiteth in that he most intendeth.* that it needeth not to be stood upon. It is enough to point at it, that no Nation which doth not directly profess Arms, may look to have *Greatness* fall into their mouths. And on the other side, it is a most certain Oracle of Time, that those States that continue long in that profession (as the *Romans* and *Turks* principally have done) do wonders; and those that have professed Arms but for an Age, have notwithstanding commonly attained that *Greatness* in that Age, which maintained them long after, when their Profession and exercise of Arms are grown to decay.

Incident to this Point is, for a State to have those Laws or Customs which may reach forth unto them just Occasions (as may be pretended) of War: for there is that justice imprinted in the Nature of Men, that they enter not upon Wars (whereof so many Calamities do ensue) but upon some, or at least specious Grounds and Quarrels. The *Turk* hath at hand, for cause of War, the Propagation of his Law or Sect, a Quarrel that he may always command. The *Romans*, though they esteemed the extending the Limits of their Empire to be great Honour to their Generals, when it was done; yet they never rested upon that alone to begin a War.

First,

First therefore, let Nations that pretend to *Greatness*, have this; that they be sensible of wrongs, either upon Borders, Merchants, or Politick Ministers; and that they sit not too long upon a Provocation. Secondly, let them be prest, and ready to give Aids and Succours to their Confederates; as it ever was with the *Romans*: Insomuch as if the Confederate had Leagues defensive with divers others States, and upon Invasion offered, did deplore their Aids severally; yet the *Romans* would ever be the foremost, and leave it to none other to have the Honour. As for the Wars which were anciently made on the behalf of a kind of Party, or tacit Conformity of Estate, I do not well say, how they may be well justified: As when the *Romans* made a War for the Liberty of *Grecia*; or when the *Lacedæmonians* and *Athenians* made Wars to set up or pull down *Democracies* and *Obligarchies*; or when Wars were made by Foreigners, under the pretence of Justice or Protection, to deliver the Subjects of others from Tyranny and Oppression, and the like. Let it suffice, That no Estate expect to be *Great*, that is not awake, upon any just Occasion of Arming.

No Body can be Healthful without *Exercise*, Neither Natural Body, nor Politick; and certainly to a *Kingdom* or *Estate*, a just and Honourable War is the true *Exercise*. A Civil War indeed is like the Heat of a Feaver; but a Foreign War is like the Heat of *Exercise*, and serveth to keep the Body in health: for in a slothful Peace

both Courages will effeminate, and Manners corrupt. But howsoever it be for Happiness without all Question; for *Greatness*, it maketh to be still, for the most part in Arms; and the strength of a Veterane Army (though it be a chargeable Business) always on Foot, is that which commonly giveth the Law, or at least the Reputation amongst all Neighbour-States; as may well be seen in *Spain*, which hath had in one part or other a Veterane Army, almost continually, now by the space of sixscore years.

To be Master of the *Sea*, is an Abridgment of a Monarchy. *Cicero* writing to *Atticus*, of *Pompey* his *Preparation* against *Cæsar*, saith, *Consilium Pompeii planè Themistocleum est; Putat enim qui Mari potitur, eum Rerum potiri.* And without doubt *Pompey* had tired out *Cæsar*, if upon vain Confidence he had not left that Way. We see the great effects of Battels by *Sea*. The Battel of *Actium* decided the Empire of the World. The Battel of *Lepanto* arrested the Greatness of the *Turk*. There be many examples, where *Sea Fights* have been Final to the War; but this is when Princes or States have set up their Rest upon the Battels. But thus much is certain, that he that commands the *Sea*, is at great liberty, and may take as much, and as little of the War, as he will; whereas those that be strongest by Land, are many times nevertheless in great streights. Surely at this day, with us of *Europe*, the Vantage of strength at Sea (which is one of the principal Dowries of this Kingdom of *Great Britain*)

Britain) is great: both because most of the Kingdoms of *Europe* are not meerly In-land, but girt with the *Sea*, most part of their Compass; and because the Wealth of both *Indies* seem in great part but an Accessary to the Command of the *Sea*.

The *Wars* of *Latter Ages* seem to be made in the Dark, in respect of the Glory and Honour which reflected upon Men from the *Wars* in *Antient Time*. There be now for Martial Encouragement, some Degrees and Orders of Chivalry, which nevertheless are conferred promiscuously upon Souldiers, and no Souldiers; and some Remembrance perhaps upon the Scutchion; and some Hospitals for maimed Souldiers, and such like Things. But in Antient Times, the *Trophies* erected upon the place of the Victory; the Funeral Laudatives and Monuments for those that died in the Wars; the Crowns and Garlands personal; the Style of Emperor, which the great King of the World after borrowed; the Triumphs of the Generals upon their Return; the great Donatives and Largesses upon the Disbanding of the Armies, were things able to enflame all mens Courages. But above all, that of the Triumph amongst the *Romans*, was not Pageant or Gaudery, but one of the Wisest and Noblest Institutions that ever was: for it contained three things: Honour to the General; Riches to the Treasury out of the Spoyl; and Donatives to the Army. But that Honour perhaps were not fit for *Monarchies*, except it be in the Person of the *Monarch* himself,

or his Sons; as it came to pass in the times of the *Roman Emperors*, who did impropriate the Actual Triumphs to themselves, and their Sons, for such Wars as they did atchieve in Persons; and left only for Wars atchieved by Subjects, some Triumphal Garments and Ensigns to the General.

To conclude, No Man can, by *Care taking* (as the *Scripture* saith) *add a cubit to his Stature*, in this little Model of a *Mans Body*; but in the greate Frame of *Kingdoms* and *Commonwealths*; it is in the power of Princes or Estates to add Amplitude and *Greatness* to their *Kingdoms*. For by introducing such Ordinances, Constitutions and Customs, as we have now touched, they may sow *Greatness* to their Posterity and Succession. But these things are commonly not observed, but left to take their chance.

XXX.

Of Regiment of Health.

THERE is a Wisdom in this beyond the Rules of *Physick*: A Mans own observation what he finds good of, and what he finds hurt of, is the best *Physick* to preserve Health. But it is a safer conclusion to say, *This agreeth not well with me, therefore I will not continue it*, than this, *I find no offence of this, therefore I may use it*. For strength of Nature in Youth passeth over

over many Exceſſes which are owing by a Man till his Age. Diſcern of the coming on of years, and think not to do the ſame things ſtill; for Age will not be defied. Beware of ſudden change in any great point of Diet; and if neceſſity inforce it, fit the reſt to it: For it is a ſecret both in Nature and State, that it is ſafer to change many things than one. Examine thy Cuſtoms of Diet, Sleep, Exerciſe, Apparel, and the like: And try in any thing thou ſhalt judg hurtful, to diſcontinue it by little and little; but ſo, as if thou doſt find any inconvenience by the change, thou come back to it again: For it is hard to diſtinguiſh that which is generally held good and wholeſome, from that which is good particularly, and fit for a mans own Body. To be free minded, and cheerfully diſpoſed at hours of Meat, and of Sleep, and of Exerciſe, is one of the beſt precepts for long Life. As for the Paſſions and Studies of the Mind; avoid envy, anxious Fears, Anger fretting inwards, ſubtile and knotty Inquiſitions, Joys, and Exhilarations in Exceſs, Sadneſs not communicated; entertain Hopes, Mirth rather than Joy, variety of Delights, rather than Surfeit of them, Wonder and Admiration, and therefore Novelties, Studies that fill the mind with ſplendid and illuſtrious Objects, as Hiſtories, Fables, and Contemplations of Nature. If you fly Phyſick in *Health* altogether, it will be too ſtrange for your Body when you ſhall need it. If you make it too familiar, it will work no extraordinary effect when

Sickneſs cometh. I commend rather ſome Diet for certain Seaſons, than frequent uſe of *Phyſick*, except it be grown into a cuſtom: For thoſe Diets alter the Body more, and trouble it leſs. Deſpiſe no new accident in your Body, but ask opinion of it. In *Sickneſs* reſpect *Health* Principally, and in *Health*, *Action*: For thoſe that put their Bodies to endure in *Healths* may in moſt *Sickneſſes*, which are not very ſharp, be cured only with Diet and tending. *Celſus* could never have ſpoken it as a *Phyſician*, had he not been a wiſe Man withal, when he giveth it for one of the great Precepts of Health and Laſting, That a Man do vary, and interchange contraries, but with an inclination to the more benign extream. Uſe Faſting and full Eating, but rather full Eating; Watching and Sleep, but rather Sleep; Sitting and Exerciſe, but rather Exerciſe, and the like: So ſhall Nature be cheriſhed, and yet taught Maſteries. *Phyſicians* are ſome of them ſo pleaſing, and conformable to the humour of the Patient, as they preſs not the true cure of the Diſeaſe; and ſome other are ſo regular, in proceeding according to Art for the Diſeaſe, as they reſpect not ſufficiently the condition of the Patient. Take one of a middle temper, or if it may not be found in one Man, combine two of either ſort; and forget not to call as well the beſt acquainted with your Body, as the beſt reputed of for his Faculty.

XXXI.

Of Suſpicion.

SUSPICIONS amongſt thoughts are like Bats amongſt Birds, they ever fly by twilight. Certainly they are to be repreſſed, or at leaſt well guarded; for they cloud the Mind, they leeſe Friends, and they check with Buſineſs, whereby Buſineſs cannot go on currant and conſtantly. They diſpoſe Kings to Tyranny, Huſbands to Jealouſie, Wiſe Men to Irreſolution and Melancholy. They are defects, not in the Heart, but in the Brain; for they take place in the ſtouteſt Natures: As in the example of *Henry* the Seventh of *England*, there was not a more *Suſpicious* Man, nor a more Stout: And in ſuch a compoſition they do ſmall hurt. For commonly they are not admitted, but with examination whether they be likely or no; but in fearful Natures they gain ground too faſt. There is nothing makes a Man *ſuſpect* much, more than to know little; and therefore Men ſhould remedy *Suſpicion*, by procuring to know more, and not to keep their *Suſpicions* in ſmother. What would Men have? Do they think thoſe they imploy and deal with are Saints? Do they not think they will have their own ends, and be truer to themſelves than to them? Therefore there is no better way to *moderate Suſpicions*,

than to account upon ſuch *Suſpicions* as true, and yet to bridle them as falſe. For ſo far a Man ought to make uſe of *Suſpicions*, as to provide, as if that ſhould be true that he *ſuſpects*, yet it may do him no hurt. *Suſpicions* that the mind of it ſelf gathers are but Buzzes, but *Suſpicions* that are artificially nouriſhed, and put into *Mens heads* by the *tales* and whiſpering of others, have Stings. Certainly the beſt means to clear the way in this ſame Wood of *Suſpicions*, is frankly to communicate them with the Party that he *ſuſpects*; for thereby he ſhall be ſure to know more of the truth of them than he did before; and withal, ſhall make that Party more circumſpect, not to give further cauſe of *Suſpicion*. But this would not be done to Men of baſe Natures: For they, if they find themſelves once *ſuſpected*, will never be true. The *Italians* ſay, *Soſpetto licentia fede*; as if *Suſpicion* did give a Paſport to Faith: But it ought rather to kindle it, to diſcharge it ſelf.

XXXII.

Of Diſcourſe.

SOME in their *Diſcourſe* deſire rather commendation of Wit, in being able to hold all Arguments, than of Judgment in diſcerning what is true: As if it were a praiſe to know what might be ſaid, and not what ſhould be thought

thought. Some have certain Common Places, and Themes, wherein they are good, and want variety; which kind of Poverty is for the moſt part tedious, and when it is once perceived, ridiculous. The honourableſt part of Talk, is to give the Occaſion, again, to moderate and paſs to ſomewhat elſe; for then a Man leads the Dance. It is good in *Diſcourſe* and Speech of Converſation, to vary and intermingle Speech of the preſent occaſion with Arguments, Tales with Reaſons, asking of Queſtions with telling of Opinions, and Jeſt with Earneſt: For it is a dull thing to Tire, and as we ſay now, to Jade any thing too far. As for Jeſt, there be certain things which ought to be privileged from it; namely, Religion, Matters of State, Great Perſons, any Mans preſent Buſineſs of importance, and any Caſe that deſerveth pity. Yet there be ſome that think their Wits have been aſleep, except they dart out ſomewhat that is piquant, and to the quick: That is a vein which would be bridled.

Parce, Puer, ſtimulis, & fortius utere loris.

And generally men ought to find the difference between Saltneſs and Bitterneſs. Certainly he that hath a Satyrical Vein, as he maketh others afraid of his Wit, ſo he had need be afraid of others Memory. He that queſtioneth much, ſhall learn much, and content much; but eſpecially if he apply his Queſtions to the skill of the Perſons whom he asketh: For he ſhall give them occaſion

caſion to pleaſe themſelves in ſpeaking, and himſelf ſhall continually gather knowledg. But let his Queſtions not be troubleſome; for that is fit for a Poſer: And let him be ſure to leave other Men their turns to ſpeak. Nay, if there be any that would reign, and take up all the time, let him find means to take them off, and to bring others on, as Muſicians uſe to do with thoſe that dance too long Galliards. If you diſſemble ſometimes your knowledg of that you are thought to know, you ſhall be thought another time to know that you know not. Speech of a mans ſelf ought to be ſeldom, and well choſen. I knew one was wont to ſay in ſcorn, *He muſt needs be a Wiſe Man, he ſpeaks ſo much of himſelf*: And there is but one caſe, wherein a Man may commend himſelf with good Grace, and that is, in commending Vertue in another; eſpecially if it be ſuch a Vertue whereunto himſelf pretendeth. Speech of touch towards others ſhould be ſparingly uſed: For *Diſcourſe* ought to be as a Field, without coming home to any Man. I knew two *Noblemen* of the Weſt part of *England*, whereof the one was given to Scoff, but kept ever Royal Cheer in his Houſe: The other would ask of thoſe that had been at the others Table, *Tell truly, was there never a Flout or dry Blow given?* To which the Gueſt would anſwer, *Such and ſuch a thing paſſed*: The Lord would ſay, *I thought he would mar a good Dinner. Diſcretion* of *Speech* is more than *Eloquence*; and to ſpeak agreeably to him with whom we deal, is more than to ſpeak in good words,

words, or in good order. A good continued Speech, without a good Speech of Interlocution, ſhews ſlowneſs; and a good Reply, or ſecond Speech without a good ſetled Speech, ſheweth Shallowneſs and Weakneſs; as we ſee in Beaſts, that thoſe that are weakeſt in the Courſe, are yet nimbleſt in the Turn; as it is betwixt the Greyhound and the Hare. To uſe too many Circumſtances e're one come to the Matter, is wearisome; to uſe none at all, is blunt.

XXXIII.

Of Plantations.

PLANTATIONS are amongſt Ancient, Primitive, and Heroical Works. When the World was young, it begat more Children; but now it is old, it begets fewer: for I may juſtly account new *Plantations* to be the Children of former Kingdoms. I like a *Plantation* in a pure Soyl, that is, where People are not *Diſplanted*, to the end, to *Plant* others; for elſe it is rather an Extirpation, than a *Plantation*. *Planting* of Countries is like *Planting* of Woods; for you muſt make account to loſe almoſt Twenty years Profit, and expect your Recompence in the end. For the principal thing that hath been the deſtruction of moſt *Plantations*, hath been the baſe and haſty drawing of profit in the firſt years. It is true, Speedy Profit is not to be neglected, as far

as may ſtand with the good of the *Plantation*, but no further. It is a ſhameful and unbleſſed thing, to take the Scum of People, and wicked comdemned Men, to be the People with whom you *Plant*: And not only ſo, but it ſpoileth the *Plantation*; for they will ever live like Rogues, and not fall to work, but be lazy, and do miſchief, and ſpend Victuals, and be quickly weary; and then certifie over to their Country to the diſcredit of the *Plantation*. The People wherewith you Plant, ought to be Gardners, Plough-men, Labourers, Smiths, Carpenters, Joyners, Fiſhermen, Fowlers, with ſome few Apothecaries, Surgeons, Cooks, and Bakers. In a Countrey of *Plantation*, firſt look about what kind of Victual the Country yields of it ſelf to Hand; as Cheſnuts, Walnuts, Pine-Apples, Olives, Dates, Plumbs, Cherries, Wild-Honey, and the like, and make uſe of them. Then conſider what Victual, or Eſculent things there are, which grow ſpeedily, and within the year; as Parſnips, Carrets, Turnips, Onions, Raddiſh, Artichoaks of *Jeruſalem*, *Maiz*, and the like. For Wheat, Barly, and Oats, they ask too much labour: But with Peaſe and Beans you may begin, both becauſe they ask leſs labour, and becauſe they ſerve for Meat as well as for Bread. And of Rice likewiſe cometh a great increaſe, and it is a kind of Meat. Above all, there ought to be brought ſtore of Biſket, Oat-meal, Flower, Meal, and the like, in the beginning, till Bread may be had. For Beaſts and Birds, take chiefly ſuch as are leaſt

ſubject

ſubject to Diſeaſes, and multiply faſteſt; as Swine, Goats, Cocks, Hens, Turkeys, Geeſe, Houſe-Doves, and the like. The Victual in *Plantations* ought to be expended, almoſt as in a beſieged Town; that is, with a certain Allowance; and let the main part of the Ground employed to Gardens or Corn, be to a common ſtock, and to be laid in, and ſtored up, and then delivered out in Proportion, beſides ſome Spots of ground that any particular Perſon will manure for his own private uſe. Conſider likewiſe what Commodities the Soyl, where the *Plantation* is, doth naturally yield, that they may ſome way help to defray the charge of the *Plantation*: So it be not, as was ſaid, to the untimely Prejudice of the main buſineſs; as it hath fared with *Tobacco* in *Virginia*. Wood commonly aboundeth but too much, and therefore Timber is fit to be one. If there be Iron Ore, and Streams whereupon to ſet the Mills, Iron is a brave commodity where Wood aboundeth. Making of Bay Salt, if the Climate be proper for it, would be put in experience. Growing Silk likewiſe, if any be, is a likely commodity. Pitch and Tar, where ſtore of Firs and Pines are, will not fail. So Drugs, and Sweet Woods, where they are, cannot but yield great profit. Soap Aſhes likewiſe, and other things that may be thought of. But moyl not too much under Ground; for the hope of Mines is very uncertain, and uſeth to make the *Planters* lazy in other things. For Government, let it be in the hands of one aſſiſted with

with ſome Counſel; and let them have Commiſſion to exerciſe Martial Laws with ſome limitation. And above all, Let Men make that Profit of being in the Wilderneſs, as they have God always, and his ſervice before their eyes. Let not the Government of the *Plantation* depend upon too many Counſellors and Undertakers in the Country that *Planteth*, but upon a temperate number; and let thoſe be rather Noblemen and Gentlemen, than Merchants; for they look ever to the preſent Gain. Let there be Freedoms for Cuſtom, till the *Plantation* be of Strength; and not only Freedom from Cuſtom, but Freedom to carry their Commodities, where they may make the beſt of them, except there be ſome ſpecial cauſe of Caution. Cram not in People, by ſending too faſt, Company after Company, but rather hearken how they waſte, and ſend Supplies proportionably; but ſo, as the number may live well in the *Plantation*, and not by ſurcharge be in penury. It hath been a great endangering to the health of ſome *Plantations*, that they have built along the Sea and Rivers in mariſh and unwholeſome Grounds. Therefore, though you begin there to avoid carriage, and other like diſcommodities, yet build ſtill rather upwards from the Streams, than along. It concerneth likewiſe the health of the *Plantation*, that they have good ſtore of Salt with them, that they may uſe it in their Victuals, when it ſhall be neceſſary. If you *Plant* where Savages are, do not only entertain them with trifles and gingles, but

uſe

uſe them juſtly and graciouſly, with ſufficient guard nevertheleſs; and do not win their favour by helping them to invade their Enemies, but for their defence it is not amiſs. And ſend oft of them over to the Country that *Plant*, that they may ſee a better condition than their own, and commend it when they return. When the *Plantation* grows to ſtrength, then it is time to *Plant* with Women as well as with Men, that the *Plantation* may ſpread into Generations, and not be ever pieced from without. It is the ſinfulleſt thing in the World to forſake or deſtitute a *Plantation* once in Forwardneſs; for beſides the diſhonour, it is guiltineſs of Blood of many commiſerable Perſons.

XXXIV.

Of Riches.

I Cannot call *Riches* better than the baggage of Vertue. The *Roman* word is better, *Impedimenta*; for as the Baggage is to an Army, ſo is *Riches* to Vertue. It cannot be ſpared, nor left behind, but it hindreth the March: Yea, and the care of it ſometimes loſeth or diſturbeth the Victory. Of great *Riches* there is no real uſe, except it be in the Diſtribution, the reſt is but conceit: So ſaith *Solomon*, *Where much is, there are many to conſume it; and what hath the owner*,

owner, but the sight of it with his eyes? The Personal Fruition in any Man cannot reach to feel great *Riches*: There is a Custody of them, or a power of Dole and Donative of them, or a Fame of them, but no solid use to the owner. Do you not see what feigned Prices are set upon little Stones and Rarities? And what works of Ostentation are undertaken, because there might seem to be some use of great *Riches*? But then you will say, they may be of use to buy Men out of dangers or troubles: as *Solomon* saith, *Riches are a strong Hold in the Imagination of the Rich Man.* But this is excellently expressed, That it is in *Imagination*, and not always in *Fact*: For certainly great *Riches* have sold more Men than they have bought out. Seek not proud *Riches*, but such as thou mayest get justly, use soberly, distribute chearfully, and leave contentedly: Yet have no Abstract nor Frierly contempt of them, but distinguish, as *Cicero* saith well of *Rabirius Posthumus*; *In studio rei amplificandæ apparebat, non Avaritiæ prædam, sed instrumentum Bonitati, quæri.* Hearken also to *Solomon*, and beware of hasty gathering of *Riches*: *Qui festinat ad Divitias, non erit insons.* The Poets feign, that when *Plutus* (which is *Riches*) is sent from *Jupiter*, he limps and goes slowly; but when he is sent from *Pluto*, he runs, and is swift of foot; meaning, that *Riches* gotten by good means, and just labour, pace slowly: But when they come by the death of others, (as by the course of Inheritance, Testaments, and the like) they come tumbling

tumbling upon a Man. But it might be applied likewise to *Pluto*, taking him for the Devil; for when *Riches* come from the Devil (as by Fraud, and Oppression, and unjust means) they come upon Speed. The *Ways to inrich* are many, and most of them foul; *Parsimony* is one of the best, and yet is not innocent; for it withholdeth Men from works of Liberality and Charity. The *Improvement of the ground* is the most natural obtaining of *Riches*; for it is our Great Mothers Blessing, the Earths, but it is slow; and yet where the Men of great wealth do stoop to Husbandry, it multiplieth *Riches* exceedingly. I knew a Nobleman of *England*, that had the greatest Audits of any Man in my time: A great Grasier, a great Sheep-Master, a great Timber-Man, a great Collier, a great Corn-Master, a great Lead-Man, and so of Iron, and a number of the like points of Husbandry; so as the Earth seemed a Sea to him in respect of the perpetual importation. It was truly observed by One, that himself came very hardly to a little *Riches*, and very easily to great *Riches*; for when a Mans stock is come to that, that he can expect the Prime of Markets, and overcome those bargains, which for their greatness are few Mens money, and be Partner in the Industries of Younger Men, he cannot but increase mainly. The *Gains* of *ordinary Trades* and *Vocations* are honest, and furthered by two things, chiefly, by Diligence, and by a good Name, for good and fair dealing. But the *Gains* of *Bargains* are of a more doubtful

Nature, when Men shall wait upon others Necessity, broke by Servants and Instruments to draw them on, put off others cunningly that would be better Chapmen, and the like practices which are crafty and naught. As for the *Chopping of Bargains*, when a Man buys, not to hold, but to sell over again, that commonly grindeth double, both upon the Seller and upon the Buyer. *Sharings* do greatly *inrich*, if the Hands be well chosen that are trusted. *Usury* is the certainest means of Gain, though one of the worst; as that whereby a Man doth eat his Bread, *In sudore vultus alieni*: And besides, doth plough upon Sundays. But yet, certain though it be, it hath Flaws; for that the Scriveners and Brokers do value unsound Men to serve their own turn. The *Fortune*, in being the first in an *Invention*, or in a *Privilege*, doth cause sometimes a wonderful overgrowth in *Riches*; as it was with the first Sugar-Man in the *Canaries*: therefore if a Man can play the true *Logician*, to have as well Judgment as Invention, he may do great matters, especially if the Times be fit. He that resteth upon *Gains Certain*, shall hardly grow to great *Riches*; and he that puts all upon *Adventures*, doth often times break, and come to Poverty: It is good therefore to guard *Adventures* with *Certainties* that may uphold losses. *Monopolies* and *Coemtion* of Wares for *Resale*, where they are not restrained, are great means to *enrich*, especially if the Party have intelligence what things are like to come into request, and to store himself before-hand.

Riches

Riches gotten by *Service*, though it be of the beſt Riſe, yet when they are gotten by Flattery, feeding Humours, and other ſervile Conditions, they may be placed amongſt the Worſt. As for fiſhing for *Teſtaments* and *Executorſhips*, (as *Tacitus* ſaith of *Seneca*, *Teſtamenta & Orbos tanquam Indagine capi*) it is yet worſe. By how much men ſubmit themſelves to meaner perſons, than in *Service*. Believe not much them that ſeem to deſpiſe *Riches*; for they deſpiſe them that deſpair of them, and none worſe when they come to them. Be not Penny-wiſe; *Riches* have Wings, and ſometimes they fly away of themſelves; ſometimes they muſt be ſet flying to bring in more. Men leave their *Riches* either to their Kindred, or to the Publick; and moderate Portions proſper beſt in both. A great State left to an Heir, is as a Lure to all the Birds of prey, round about to ſeize on him, if he be not the better eſtabliſhed in Years and Judgment. Likewiſe glorious Gifts and Foundations are like *Sacrifices without Salt*, and but the *Painted Sepulchres of Alms*, which ſoon will putrifie and corrupt inwardly: Therefore meaſure not thine advancements by quantity, but frame them by meaſure; and defer not Charities till death: For certainly if a man weigh it rightly, he that doth ſo is rather liberal of another mans, than of his own.

XXXV.

Of Prophecies.

I MEAN not to speak of *Divine Prophecies*, nor of Heathen Oracles, nor of Natural Predictions, but only of *Prophecies* that have been of certain Memory, and from hidden Causes. Saith the *Pythonissa* to *Saul*, *To morrow thou and thy Son shall be with me.* *Homer* hath these Verses,

At domus Æneæ cunctis dominabitur oris
Et nati natorum, & qui nascentur ab illis.

A *Prophecy*, as it seems, of the *Roman* Empire. *Seneca*, the *Tragedian*, hath these Verses,

——Venient Annis
Secula seris, quibus Oceanus
Vincula rerum laxet, & ingens
Pateat Tellus, Tiphysque novos
Detegat orbes; nec sit terris
Ultima Thule.

A *Prophecy* of the *Discovery* of *America*. The Daughter of *Polycrates* dreamed, that *Jupiter* bathed her Father, and *Apollo* anointed him; and it came to pass that he was Crucified in an open Place, where the Sun made his Body run with Sweat, and the Rain washed it. *Philip* of *Mace-*

don dreamed he ſealed up his Wives Belly; whereby he did expound it that his Wife ſhould be barren: But *Ariſtander* the Sooth-Sayer told him his Wife was with Child, becauſe Men do not uſe to ſeal Veſſels that are empty. A Phantaſm that appeared to *M. Brutus* in his Tent, ſaid to him, *Philippis iterum me videbis. Tiberius* ſaid to *Galba*, *Tu quoque, Galba, deguſtabis Imperium.* In *Veſpaſian's* time, there went a *Prophecy* in the Eaſt, that thoſe that ſhould come forth of *Judea* ſhould reign over the World: Which though it may be was meant of our *Saviour*, yet *Tacitus* expounds it of *Veſpaſian*. *Domitian* dreamed the night before he was ſlain, that a Golden Head was growing out of the Nape of his Neck: And indeed the Succeſſion that followed him for many years made Golden Times. *Henry* the Sixth of *England*, ſaid of *Henry* the Seventh, when he was a Lad, and gave him Water, *This is the Lad that ſhall enjoy the Crown for which we ſtrive.* When I was in *France*, I heard from one Doctor *Pena*, that the *Queen Mother*, who was given to curious Arts, cauſed the King her Huſband's Nativity to be Calculated under a falſe Name: And the Aſtrologer gave a Judgment, that he ſhould be killed in a Duel; at which the Queen laughed, thinking her Husband to be above Challenges and Duels: But he was ſlain upon a Courſe at Tilt, the Splinters of the Staff of *Mongomery* going in at his Bever. The trivial *Prophecy* that I heard when I was a Child, and Queen *Elizabeth* was in the Flower of her Years, was:

When Hempe is ſpun,
England's *done.*

Whereby it was generally conceived, that after the Princes had Reigned, which had the principal Letters of that Word *Hempe*, (which were *Henry*, *Edward*, *Mary*, *Philip*, and *Elizabeth*,) *England* ſhould come to utter Confuſion; which thanks be to God is verified in the Change of the Name; for that the King's Style is no more of *England*, but of *Britain*. There was alſo another *Prophecy*, before the Year of 88. which I do not well underſtand:

There ſhall be ſeen upon a day,
Between the Baugh *and the* May,
The Black Fleet of Norway.
When that is come and gone,
England *build Houſes of Lime and Stone,*
For after Wars ſhall you have none.

It was generally conceived to be meant of the *Spaniſh* Fleet that came in 88. For that the King of *Spain*'s Sirname, as they ſay, is *Norway*. The Prediction of *Regiomontanus*,

Octogeſſimus octavus mirabilis Annus,

Was thought likewiſe accompliſhed, in the ſending of that great Fleet, being the greateſt in ſtrength, though not in number, that ever ſwam upon

upon the Sea. As for *Cleon*'s Dream, I think it was a Jeſt: It was, That he was devoured of a long Dragon; and it was expounded of a Maker of Sauſages that troubled him exceedingly. There are numbers of the like kind, eſpecially if you include *Dreams* and *Predictions* of *Aſtrology*. But I have ſet down theſe few only of certain credit for example. My judgment is, that they ought all to be deſpiſed, and ought to ſerve but for winter-talk by the fire-ſide: Though, when I ſay *Deſpiſed*, I mean it as for belief; for otherwiſe, the ſpreading or publiſhing of them is in no ſort to be *Deſpiſed*; for they have done much miſchief. And I ſee many ſevere Laws made to ſuppreſs them. That that hath given them grace, and ſome credit, conſiſteth in three things: Firſt, That Men mark when they hit, and never mark when they miſs; as they do generally alſo of *Dreams*. The ſecond is, That probable Conjectures, or obſcure Traditions, many times turn themſelves into *Propheſies*, while the Nature of Man, which coveteth *Divination*, thinks it no peril to foretel that which indeed they do but collect: As that of *Seneca*'s Verſe. For ſo much was then ſubject to Demonſtration, that the Globe of the Earth had great Parts beyond the *Atlantick*; which might be probably conceived not to be all Sea: And adding thereto, the Tradition in *Plato*'s *Timæus*, and his *Atlanticus*, it might encourage one to turn it to a *Prediction*. The third and Laſt (which is the Great one) is, That almoſt all of them, being infinite in

number, have been Impostures, and by idle and crafty Brains meerly contrived and feigned after the Event past.

XXXVI.

Of Ambition.

AMBITION is like *Choler*, which is an Humour that maketh Men Active, Earnest, full of Alacrity, and Stirring, if it be not stopped: But if it be stopped, and cannot have his way, it becometh Aduſt, and thereby Malign and Venomous. So *Ambitious Men*, if they find the way open for their Riſing, and ſtill get forward, they are rather Buſie than Dangerous; but if they be checkt in their deſires, they become ſecretly diſcontent, and look upon Men and Matters with an Evil Eye, and are beſt pleaſed when things go backward, which is the worſt property in a Servant of a Prince or State. Therefore it is good for Princes, if they uſe *Ambitious Men*, to handle it ſo, as they be ſtill Progreſſive, and not Retrograde; which, becauſe it cannot be without inconvenience, it is good not to uſe ſuch Natures at all. For if they riſe not with their Service, they will take order to make their Service fall with them. But ſince we have ſaid, it were good not to uſe Men of *Ambitious Natures*, except it be upon neceſſity, it is fit we ſpeak in what caſes they are of neceſſity.

Good

Good Commanders in the Wars muſt be taken, be they never ſo *Ambitious*; for the uſe of their ſervice diſpenſeth with the reſt; and to take a Soldier without *Ambition*, is to pull off his Spurs. There is alſo great uſe of *Ambitious Men*, in being Skreens to Princes in matters of danger and Envy; for no man will take that part, except he be like a ſeeld Dove, that mounts and mounts, becauſe he cannot ſee about him. There is uſe alſo of *Ambitious Men*, in pulling down the greatneſs of any Subject that over-tops; as *Tiberius* uſed *Macro* in pulling down of *Sejanus*. Since therefore they muſt be uſed in ſuch caſes, there reſteth to ſpeak how they are to be bridled, that they may be leſs *Dangerous*. There is leſs *Danger* of them, if they be of mean Birth, than if they be Noble; and if they be rather harſh of Nature, than Gracious and Popular; and if they be rather new raiſed, than grown cunning, and fortified in their Greatneſs. It is counted by ſome a weakneſs in Princes to have *Favourites*; but it is of all others the beſt remedy againſt *Ambitious Great Ones*. For when the way of pleaſuring and diſpleaſuring lieth by the *Favourite*, it is impoſſible any other ſhould be *Over-great*. Another means to curb them, is to ballance them by others as proud as they. But then there muſt be ſome middle Counſellors to keep things ſteady; for without that Ballaſt the Ship will roul too much. At the leaſt, a Prince may animate and inure ſome meaner Perſons, to be as it were Scourges to *Ambitious Men*. As for the having

of

of them obnoxious to ruine, if they be of fearful Natures, it may do well; but if they be stout and daring, it may precipitate their Designs, and prove dangerous. As for the pulling of them down, if the Affairs require it, and that it may not be done with safety suddenly, the only way is, the interchange continually of Favours and disgraces; whereby they may not know what to expect, and be as it were in a Wood. Of *Ambitions*, it is less harmful the *Ambition* to prevail in great things, than that other to appear in every thing; for that breeds confusion, and mars business. But yet it is less Danger, to have an *Ambitious Man* stirring in business, than great in dependences. He that seeketh to be eminent amongst able Men, hath a great task; but that is ever good for the Publick; but he that plots to be the only Figure amongst Cyphers, is the decay of an whole Age. *Honour* hath three things in it: The Vantage Ground to do good, the approach to Kings and Principal Persons, and the raising of a Mans own Fortunes. He that hath the best of these Intentions when he aspireth, is an honest Man; and that Prince that can discern of these Intentions in another that aspireth, is a wise Prince. Generally, let Princes and States chuse such Ministers as are more sensible of Duty, than of Rising; and such as love Business rather upon Conscience, than upon Bravery; and let them discern a busie Nature from a willing Mind.

Of

XXXVII.

Of Masks and Triumphs.

THESE Things are but Toys, to come amongſt ſuch ſerious Obſervations. But yet, ſince Princes will have ſuch things, it is better they ſhould be graced with Elegancy, than daubed with Coſt. *Dancing to Song*, is a thing of great State and Pleaſure. I underſtand it, that the Song be in Choir, placed aloft, and accompanied with ſome broken Muſick, and the Ditty fitted to the Device. *Acting in Song*, eſpecially in *Dialogues*, hath an extream good Grace; I ſay *Acting*, not *Dancing*, (for that is a mean and vulgar thing) and the *Voices* of the *Dialogue* would be ſtrong and manly, (a Baſe, and a Tenor, no Treble,) and the *Ditty* High and Tragical, not Nice or Dainty. *Several Choirs* placed one over againſt another, and taking the Voice by Catches, *Anthem*-wiſe, give great Pleaſure. *Turning Dances* into *Figure* is a childiſh curioſity; and generally let it be noted, that thoſe things which I here ſet down, are ſuch as do naturally take the Senſe, and not reſpect petty Wonderments. It is true, the *Alterations* of *Scenes*, ſo it be quietly, and without noiſe, are things of great Beauty and Pleaſure; for they feed and relieve the Eye, before it be full of the ſame Object. Let the *Scenes* abound with *Lights*, ſpecially

ſpecially *Coloured* and *Varied*; and let the *Maſkers*, or any other that are to come down from the *Scene*, have ſome motions upon the *Scene* it ſelf, before their coming down; for it draws the Eye ſtrangely, and makes it with great pleaſure to deſire to ſee that it cannot perfectly diſcern. Let the *Songs* be *Loud* and *Cheerful*, and not *Chirpings* or *Pulings*. Let the *Muſick* likewiſe be *Sharp* and *Loud*, and *well placed*. The *Colours* that ſhew beſt by Candle-light, are White, Carnation, and a kind of Sea-water Green; and *Oes* or *Spangs*, as they are of no great Coſt, ſo they are of moſt Glory. As for *Rich Embroidery*, it is loſt, and not diſcerned. Let the *Suits* of *Maskers* be graceful, and ſuch as become the Perſon when the Vizars are off, not after examples of known Attires; Turks, Soldiers, Mariners, and the like. Let *Anti-masks* not be long, they have been commonly of Fools, Satyrs, Baboons, Wild-men, Antiques, Beaſts, Spirits, Witches, Ethiops, Pigmies, Turquets, Nymphs, Ruſticks, Cupids, Statua's moving, and the like. As for *Angels*, it is not Comical enough to put them in *Anti-masks*; and any thing that is hideous, as Devils, Gyants, is on the other ſide as unfit. But chiefly, let the *Muſick* of them be Recreative, and with ſome ſtrange Changes. Some *ſweet Odours* ſuddenly coming forth, without any drops falling, are in ſuch a Company, as there is Steam and Heat, things of great pleaſure and refreſhment. *Double Masks*, one of Men, another of Ladies, addeth State and Variety. But

all

all is nothing, except the *Room* be kept clear and neat.

For *Juſts*, and *Turneys*, and *Barriers*, the Glories of them are chiefly in the Chariots, wherein the Challengers make their Entry, ſpecially if they be drawn with ſtrange Beaſts, as Lions, Bears, Camels, and the like; or in the Devices of their Entrance, or in the bravery of their Liveries, or in the goodly Furniture of their Horſes and Armour. But enough of theſe toys.

XXXVIII.

Of Nature in Men.

NATURE is often Hidden, ſometimes Overcome, ſeldom Extinguiſhed. Force maketh *Nature* more violent in the Return; Doctrine and Diſcourſe maketh *Nature* leſs importune: But Cuſtom only doth alter and ſubdue *Nature*. He that ſeeketh Victory over his *Nature*, let him not ſet himſelf too great, nor too ſmall Tasks, for the firſt will make him dejected, by often Failings; and the ſecond will make him a ſmall Proceeder, though by often Prevailings. And at the firſt, let him practiſe with Helps, as Swimmers do with Bladders or Rufhes; but after a time let him practiſe with diſadvantages, as Dancers do with thick Shooes: For it breeds great Perfection, if the practice be harder than the Uſe. Where *Nature* is mighty, and

and therefore the Victory hard, the Degrees had need be, Firſt, to ſtay and arreſt *Nature* in time, like to him that would ſay over the Four and Twenty Letters when he was Angry, than to go leſs in quantity: As if one ſhould in forbearing Wine, come from drinking Healths to a Draught at a Meal, and laſtly to diſcontinue altogether: But if a Man have the Fortitude and Reſolution to enfranchiſe himſelf at once, that is the beſt;

Optimus ille animi vindex, laedentia pectus
Vincula qui rupit, dedoluitque ſemel.

Neither is the Ancient Rule amiſs to bend *Nature*, as a wand to a contrary Extream, whereby to ſet it right, underſtanding it where the contrary Extream is no Vice. Let not a Man force a Habit upon himſelf with a perpetual Continuance, but with ſome Intermiſſion; for both the Pauſe re-inforceth the new Onſet: And if a Man that is not perfect be ever in practice, he ſhall as well practiſe his Errors, as his Abilities, and induce one Habit of both; and there is no means to help this, but by ſeaſonable Intermiſſion. But let not a Man truſt his Victory over his *Nature* too far; for *Nature* will lie buried a great time, and yet revive upon the Occaſion of Temptation. Like as it was with *Æſop*'s Damſel, turned from a Cat to a Woman, who ſate very demurely at the Boards end, till a Mouſe run before her. Therefore let a Man either avoid the Occaſion altogether, or put himſelf often to it, that

that he may be little moved with it. A Mans *Nature* is beſt perceived in privateneſs, for there is no Affectation in Paſſion, for that putteth a Man out of his Precepts; and in a new Caſe of Experiment, for there Cuſtom leaveth him. They are happy Men whoſe *Natures* ſort with their Vocations, otherwiſe they may ſay, *Multùm Incola fuit Anima mea*; when they converſe in thoſe they do not affect. In Studies whatſoever a man commandeth upon himſelf, let him ſet hours for it; but whatſoever is agreeable to his *Nature*, let him take no care for any ſet Times, for his thoughts will fly to it of themſelves; ſo as the ſpaces of other buſineſs or Studies will ſuffice. A Mans *Nature* runs either to Herbs or Weeds; therefore let him ſeaſonably water the one, and deſtroy the other.

XXXIX.

Of Cuſtom and Education.

MENS Thoughts are much according to their Inclination, their Diſcourſe and Speeches according to their Learning and infuſed Opinions; but their Deeds are after as they have been *accuſtomed*: And therefore as *Machiavel* well noteth, (though in an ill-favoured Inſtance) there is no truſting to the force of Nature nor to the bravery of Words, except it be corroborate by *Cuſtom*. His inſtance is, that for

the

the atchieving of a desperate Conspiracy, a Man should not rest upon the fierceness of any Mans Nature, or his resolute undertakings; but take such an one as hath had his hands formerly in Blood. But *Machiavel* knew not of a *Frier Clement*, not a *Ravillac*, nor a *Jaureguy*, nor a *Baltazer Gerrard*; yet this Rule holdeth still, that Nature, nor the Engagement of Words are not so forcible as *Customs*. Only Superstition is now so well advanced, that Men of the first blood are as firm as Butchers by Occupation, and Votary Resolution is made Equipollent to *Custom*, even in matter of blood. In other things the predominancy of *Custom* is every where visible, insomuch as a man would wonder to hear men Profess, Protest, Engage, give great Words, and then do just as they have done before, as if they were dead Images, and Engines moved only by the wheels of *Custom*. We see also the Reign or Tyranny of *Custom*, what it is. The *Indians* (I mean the Sect of their Wise Men) lay themselves quietly upon a stack of Wood, and so Sacrifice themselves by fire: Nay, the Wives strive to be burned with the Corps of their Husbands. The Lads of *Sparta* of ancient time, were wont to be scourged upon the Altar of *Diana* without so much as Squeeking. I remember in the beginning of Queen *Elizabeth*'s time, of *England*, an *Irish Rebel* condemned, put up a Petition to the *Deputy*, that he might be hanged in a Wyth, and not in an Halter, because it had been so used with former *Rebels*. There be *Monks* in *Russia*, for Pen-

Pennance, that will sit a whole night in a Vessel of Water, till they be engaged with hard Ice. Many Examples may be put down of the Force of *Custom*, both upon mind and body. Therefore since *Custom* is the Principal Magistrate of Man's life, let Men by all means endeavour to obtain good *Customs*. Certainly *Custom* is most perfect when it beginneth in young years: This we call *Education*, which is in effect but an *early Custom*. So we see in Languages, the Tongue is more pliant to all Expressions and Sounds, the Joynts are more supple to all Feats of Activity and motions in Youth than afterwards. For it is true, the late Learners cannot so well take the ply, except it be in some minds that have not suffered themselves to fix, but have kept themselves open and prepared to receive continual amendment, which is exceeding rare. But if the Force of *Custom*, Simple and Separate, be great, the Force of *Custom* Copulate, and Conjoyned, and Collegiate, is far greater. For their Example teacheth, Company comforteth, Emulation quickneth, Glory raiseth: So as in such Places the Force of *Custom* is in his Exaltation. Certainly the great multiplication of Virtues upon human Nature, resteth upon Societies well ordained and disciplined: for Commonwealths and good Governments do nourish Virtue Grown, but do not much mend the Seeds. But the misery is, that the most effectual Means are now applyed to the Ends least to be desired.

XL.

Of Fortune.

IT cannot be denyed, but outward accidents conduce much to *Fortune*; Favour, Opportunity, Death of others, Occasion fitting Virtue. But chiefly the mould of a *Man's Fortune* is in his own hands. *Faber quisque Fortunæ suæ*, saith the Poet. And the most frequent of External Causes is, that the Folly of one man is the *Fortune* of another. For no man prospers so suddenly as by others errors. *Serpens nisi Serpentem comederit non fit Draco.* Overt and Apparent Vertues bring forth Praise; but there be Secret and Hidden Vertues that bring forth *Fortune*. Certain Deliveries of a Man's self, which have no Name. The *Spanish* Name, *Desemboltura*, properly expresseth them, when there be not Stands nor Restiveness in a *Man's Nature*, but that the Wheels of his *Mind* keep way with the Wheels of his *Fortune*. For so *Livy* (after he had described *Cato Major*, in these words, *In illo viro tantum Robur Corporis & Animi fuit, ut quocunque loco natus esset, Fortunam sibi facturus videretur*) falleth upon that, that he had *Versatile Ingenium*. Therefore if a man look sharply and attentively, he shall see *Fortune*: For though she be blind, yet she is not invisible. The way of *Fortune* is like the *Milkie Way* in the Skie, which is a Meeting

or Knot of a number of ſmall Stars; not ſeen aſunder, but giving Light together: So are there a number of little, and ſcarce diſcerned Virtues, or rather Faculties and Cuſtoms that make men *Fortunate*. The *Italians* note ſome of them, ſuch as a Man would little think: When they ſpeak of one that cannot do amiſs, they will throw in into his other Conditions that he hath, *Poco di Matto*. And certainly, there be not two more *Fortunate* properties, than to have a *little* of the *Fool*, and not *too much* of the *Honeſt*. Therefore extream Lovers of their Country, or Maſters, were never *Fortunate*, neither can they be. For when a man placeth his thoughts without himſelf, he goeth not his own way. An haſty *Fortune* maketh an Enterpriſer and Remover; (the *French* hath it better, *Entreprenant* or *Remuant*) but the exerciſed *Fortune* maketh the able Man. *Fortune* is to be Honoured and Reſpected, if it be but for her Daughters, *Confidence* and *Reputation*: For thoſe two *Felicity* breedeth; the firſt, within a Man's ſelf, the latter in others towards him. All wiſe men to decline the Envy of their own Virtues, uſe to aſcribe them to Providence and *Fortune*; for ſo they may the better aſſume them: And beſides, it is Greatneſs in a Man to be the Care of the Higher Powers. So *Cæſar* ſaid to the Pilot in the Tempeſt, *Cæſarem portas, & Fortunam ejus*. So *Sylla* choſe the Name of *Felix*, and not of *Magnus*. And it hath been noted, that thoſe that aſcribe openly too much to their own Wiſdom and Policy, end *Unfortunate*.

it is written, That *Timotheus* the *Athenian*, after he had, in the account he gave to the State of his Government, often interlaced his Speech, *And in this Fortune had no part*, never prospered in any thing he undertook afterwards. Certainly there be, whose *Fortunes* are like *Homer's Verses*, that have a Slide and Easiness more than the Verses of other Poets; as *Plutarch* saith of *Timoleon's Fortune*, in respect of that of *Agesilaus*, or *Epaminondas*: And that this should be, no doubt it is much in a Man's self.

XLI.

Of Usury.

MANY have made witty Invectives against *Usury*. They say, That it is pity the Devil should have God's part, which is the *Tithe*. That the *Usurer* is the greatest Sabbath-breaker, because his Plough goeth every *Sunday*. That the *Usurer* is the *Drone* that *Virgil* speaketh of;

Ignavum fucos pecus à præsepibus arcent.

That the *Usurer* breaketh the first Law that was made for Mankind after the Fall; which was, *In sudore vultus tui comedes panem tuum*; not, *In sudore vultus alieni*. That *Usurers* should have *Orange-tawny Bonnets*, because they do *Judaize*.

That

That it is against Nature, for *Money* to beget *Money*, and the like. I say this only, That *Usury* is a *Concessum propter duritiem cordis*: For surely there must be Borrowing and Lending, and Men are so hard of Heart, as they will not lend freely, *Usury must* be permitted. Some others have made Subtile and Cunning Propositions of Banks, discovery of Men's Estates, and other Inventions, but few have spoken of *Usury* usefully. It is good to set before us the *Incommodities* and *Commodities* of *Usury*, that the good may be either Weighed out, or Culled out; and warily to provide, that while we make forth to that which is better, we meet not with that which is worse.

The *Discommodities* of *Usury* are, First, That it makes fewer Merchants; for were it not for this lazy Trade of *Usury*, Money would not lie still, but would in great part be employed upon Merchandising, which is the *Vena Porta* of Wealth in a State. The second, That it makes poor Merchants; for as a Farmer cannot husband his Ground so well, if he sit at a great Rent: So the Merchant cannot drive his Trade so well, if he sit at great *Usury*. The third is incident to the other two, and that is, The decay of Customs, of Kings, or States, which Ebb or Flow with Merchandizing. The fourth, That it bringeth the Treasure of a Realm or State into a few hands; for the *Usurer* being at Certainties, and others at Uncertainties, at the end of the Game most of the Money will be in the Box;

and ever a State flourisheth, when Wealth is more equally spread. The fifth, That it beats down the price of Land; for the employment of Money is chiefly either Merchandizing or Purchasing; and *Usury* way-lays both. The Sixth, That it doth dull and damp all Industries, Improvements, and new Inventions, wherein Money would be stirring, if it were not for the Stop. The last, That it is the Canker and Rust of many Men's Estates, which in process of time breeds a publick Poverty.

On the other side, the *Commodities* of *Usury* are: First, That howsoever *Usury* in some respect hindreth Merchandizing, yet in some other it advanceth it; for it is certain, that the greatest part of Trade is driven by young Merchants upon borrowing at Interest: So as if the *Usurer* either call in, or keep back his Money, there will ensue presently a great stand of Trade. The second is, That were it not for this easie borrowing upon *Interest*, Mens necessities would draw upon them a most sudden undoing, in that they would be forced to sell their Means (be it Land or Goods) far under foot; and so whereas *Usury* doth but gnaw upon them, bad Markets would swallow them quite up. As for Mortgaging or Pawning, it will little mend the matter, for either men will not take Pawns without *Use*, or if they do, they will look precisely for the Forfeiture. I remember a cruel Monied Man in the Country, that would say, The Devil take this *Usury*, it keeps us from Forfeitures of Mort-

gages

gages and Bonds. The third and last is, That it is a vanity to conceive, that there would be ordinary borrowing without profit; and it is impossible to conceive, the number of Inconveniences that will ensue, if borrowing be cramped: Therefore to speak of the abolishing of *Usury* is idle; All States have ever had it in one kind, or rate or other: so as that opinion must be sent to *Utopia*.

To speak now of the *Reformation* and *Reglement* of *Usury*, how the *Discommodities* of it may be best avoided, and the *Commodities* retained. It appears by the Ballance of *Commodities* and *Discommodities* of *Usury*, two things are to be reconciled: The one, that the *Tooth* of *Usury* be grinded, that it bite not too much: The other, that there be left open a means to invite Monied Men to lend to the Merchants, for the Continuing and Quickning of Trade. This cannot be done, except you introduce two several sorts of *Usury*, a *less* and a *greater*. For if you reduce *Usury* to one low rate, it will ease the *Common Borrower*, but the *Merchant* will be to seek for Money. And it is to be noted, that the Trade of Merchandize, being the most *Lucrative*, may bear *Usury* at a good rate; other Contracts not so.

To serve both Intentions the way would be chiefly thus: That there be *two Rates* of *Usury*, the one Free and General for all, the other under *Licence* only to *certain Persons*, and in *certain Places of Merchandizing*. First therefore, let *Usury*

in general be reduced to Five in the Hundred, and let that Rate be proclaimed to be Free and Current; and let the State shut it self out to take any penalty for the same. This will preserve Borrowing from any general Stop or Dryness. This will ease infinite Borrowers in the Country. This will in good part raise the price of Land, because Land purchased at Sixteen years purchase, will yield Six in the Hundred, and somewhat more, whereas this Rate of Interest yields but Five. This by reason will encourage and edg Industrious and Profitable Improvements, because many will rather venture in that kind, than take Five in the Hundred, especially having been used to greater profit. Secondly, Let there be *certain Persons Licensed to lend to known Merchants*, upon *Usury*, at a *High Rate*, and let it be with the Cautions following. Let the Rate be, even with the Merchant himself, somewhat more ease than that he used formerly to pay: for by that means all Borrowers shall have some ease by this Reformation, be he Merchant or whosoever. Let it be no Bank or Common Stock, but every man be master of his own Money. Not that I altogether mislike Banks, but they will hardly be brooked, in regard of certain suspicions. Let the State be answered some small matter for the License, and the rest left to the Lender; for if the Abatement be but small, it will no whit discourage the Lender. For he, for example, that took before Ten or Nine in the Hundred, will sooner descend to Eight in the Hundred, than give over his

his Trade of *Usury*, and go from Certain Gains to Gains of Hazard. Let these Licensed Lenders be in number indefinite, but restrained to certain principal Cities and Towns of Merchandizing, for then they will be hardly able to colour others mens moneys in the Country, so as the *Licence of Nine* will not suck away the current *Rate of Five*, for no man will Lend his Moneys far off, nor put them into unknown hands.

If it be objected That this doth in a sort Authorize *Usury*, which before was in some places but permissive: The Answer is, that it is better to mitigate *Usury* by *Declaration*, than to suffer it to rage by *Connivence*.

XLII.

Of Youth and Age.

A Man that is *Young* in *Years*, may be Old in Hours, if he have lost no time, but that happeneth rarely. Generally *Youth* is like the first Cogitations, not so wise as the second; for there is a *Youth* in Thoughts as well as in Ages. And yet the Invention of *Young Men* is more lively than that of Old, and Imaginations stream into their minds better, and, as it were, more divinely. Natures that have much heat, and great and violent desires and perturbations, are not ripe for Action till they have passed the Meridian

ridian of their years; as it was with *Julius Cæsar*, and *Septimus Severus*, of the latter of whom it is said, *Juventutem egit Erroribus, imo Furoribus plenam*; and yet he was the ablest Emperor almost of all the List. But reposed Natures may do well in Youth, as it is seen in *Augustus Cæsar*, *Cosmus* Duke of *Florence*, *Gaston de Foix*, and others. On the other side, Heat and Vivacity in *Age* is an excellent Composition for business. *Young Men* are fitter to invent than to judge, fitter for Execution than for Counsel, and fitter for new projects than for settled business, for the Experience of *Age* in things that fall within the compass of it, directeth them, but in new things abuseth them. The Errors of *Young Men* are the ruin of business; but the Errors of *Aged Men* amount but to this, that more might have been done or sooner. *Young Men* in the conduct and manage of Actions embrace more than they can hold, stir more than they can quiet, fly to the end without consideration of the means and degrees, pursue some few Principles which they have chanced upon absurdly, care not to innovate, which draw unknown inconveniences, use extream Remedies at first, and that which doubleth all Errors, will not acknowledge or reract them, like an unready Horse, that will neither Stop nor Turn. *Men* of *Age* object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, repent too soon, and seldom drive business home to the full period, but content themselves with a mediocrity of Success. Certainly it is good to com-

compound *Employments* of both; for that will be good for the *present*, because the vertues of either *Age* may correct the defects of both, and good for Succession, that *Young Men* may be Learners, while *Men* in *Age* are Actors. And lastly, good for *Extern Accidents*, because Authority followeth *Old Men*, and Favour and Popularity *Youth*. But for the moral part perhaps *Youth* will have the preheminence, as *Age* hath for the politick. A certain *Rabbin* upon the Text, *Your Young Men shall see visions, and your Old Men shall dream dreams*, inferreth, that *Young Men* are admitted nearer to God than *Old*, because *Vision* is a clearer Revelation than a *Dream*. And certainly the more a Man drinketh of the World, the more it intoxicateth; and *Age* doth profit rather in the powers of Understanding, than in the Vertues of the Will and Affections. There be some have an over-early Ripeness in their years, which fadeth betimes: These are first such as have brittle Wits, the edge whereof is soon turned, such as was *Hermogenes* the *Rhetorician*, whose Books are exceeding subtil, who afterwards waxed stupid. A second sort is of those that have some natural Dispositions which have better grace in *Youth* than in *Age*; such as is a fluent and luxuriant Speech, which becomes *Youth* well, but not *Age*: So *Tully* saith of *Hortensius*, *Idem manebat, neque idem decebat*. The third is, of such as take too high a strain at the first, and are magnanimous more than Tract of years can uphold: As was *Scipio Africanus*,

of

of whom *Livy* saith in effect, *Ultima primis cedebant.*

XLIII.

Of Beauty.

VERTUE is like a rich Stone, best plain set; and surely, Vertue is best in a Body that is comely, though not of delicate Features, and that hath rather Dignity of Presence, than *Beauty* of Aspect. Neither is it almost seen that very *Beautiful Persons* are otherwise of great Vertue, as if Nature were rather busie not to err, than in labour to produce Excellency; and therefore they prove accomplished, but not of great Spirit, and study rather Behaviour than Vertue. But this holds not always, for *Augustus Cæsar, Titus Vespasianus, Philip le Belle* of *France, Edward* the fourth of *England, Alcibiades* of *Athens, Ismael* the *Sophy* of *Persia*, were all high and great Spirits, and yet the most *Beautiful Men* of their times. In *Beauty*, that of *Favour* is more than that of *Colour*; and that of *decent* and *gracious Motion*, more than that of *Favour*. That is the best part of *Beauty* which a Picture cannot express, no nor the first sight of the Life. There is no excellent *Beauty* that hath not some strangeness in the proportion. A Man cannot tell whether *Apelles* or *Albert Durer* were the more Artificer; whereof the one would make a Person-

age

age by Geometrical Proportions, the other by taking the beſt Parts out of divers Faces to make one excellent. Such Perſonages I think would pleaſe no body, but the Painter that made them. Not but I think a Painter may make a better Face than ever was, but he muſt do it by a kind of *Felicity*, (as a Muſitian that maketh an excellent Air in Muſick) and not by Rule. A Man ſhall ſee Faces, that if you examine them part by part, you ſhall find never a good, and yet altogether do well. If it be true, that the principal part of *Beauty* is in decent motion, certainly it is no marvel, though *Perſons* in *Years* ſeem many times more amiable, *Pulchrorum Autumnus pulcher*; for no *Youth* can be comely, but by pardon, and conſidering the *Youth*, as to make up the comelineſs. *Beauty* is as Summer-Fruits, which are eaſie to corrupt, and cannot laſt, and for the moſt part it makes a diſſolute *Youth*, and an *Age*, a little out of countenance; but yet certainly again, if it light well, it maketh Vertues ſhine, and Vices bluſh.

XLIV.

Of Deformity.

DEFORMED *Perſons* are commonly even with Nature; for as Nature hath done ill by them, ſo do they by Nature, being for the moſt part (as the Scripture ſaith) *void of*

of Natural Affection, and so they have Revenge of Nature. Certainly, there is a consent between the body and the mind, and where Nature erreth in the one, she ventureth in the other; *Ubi peccat in uno, periclitatur in altero.* But because there is in Man an Election touching the Frame of his mind, and a Necessity in the Frame of his body, the Stars of natural Inclination are sometimes obscured by the Sun of Discipline and Vertue: Therefore it is good to consider of *Deformity*, not as a Sign which is more deceivable, but as a Cause which seldom faileth of the Effect. Whosoever hath any thing fixed in his Person that doth induce Contempt, hath also a perpetual Spur in himself to rescue and deliver himself from Scorn. Therefore all *Deformed Persons* are extream bold. First, as in their own Defence, as being exposed to Scorn, but in process of time, by a general Habit. Also it stirreth in them industry, and especially of this kind, to watch and observe the weaknesses of others, that they may have somewhat to repay. Again, in their Superiors, it quencheth Jealousie towards them, as Persons that they think they may at pleasure despise; and it layeth their Competitors and Emulators asleep, as never believing they should be in possibility of Advancement, till they see them in Possession; so that upon the matter in a great Wit, *Deformity* is an advantage to Rising. Kings in ancient times (and at this present in some Countries) were wont to put great Trust in *Eunuchs*; because they that

are envious to all, are more obnoxious and officious towards one. But yet their Trust towards them hath rather been as to good Spials, and good whisperers, than good Magistrates and Officers. And much like is the Reason of *Deformed Persons*. Still the ground is, they will if they be of Spirit, seek to free themselves from Scorn, which must be either by Vertue or Malice; and therefore let it not be marvelled if sometimes they prove excellent Persons; as was *Agesilaus*, *Zanger* the Son of *Solyman*, *Æsop*, *Gasca* President of *Peru*, and *Socrates* may go likewise amongst them, with others.

XLV.

Of Building.

HOUSES are built to live in, and not to look on: Therefore let Use be preferred before Uniformity, except where both may be had. Leave the goodly Fabricks of *Houses*, for Beauty only, to the *Enchanted Palaces* of the *Poets*, who build them with small cost. He that builds a fair *House* upon an *ill Seat*, committeth himself to Prison. Neither do I reckon it an *ill Seat* only where the Air is unwholesome, but likewise where the Air is unequal; as you shall see many fine *Seats* set upon a knap of Ground, environed with higher Hills round about it, whereby the Heat of the Sun is pent in, and the

Wind

Wind gathereth as in Troughs; so as you shall have, and that suddenly, as great Diversity of Heat and Cold, as if you dwelt in several Places. Neither is it *ill Air* only that maketh an *ill Seat*, but ill ways, ill Markets; and if you will consult with *Momus*, ill Neighbours. I speak not of any more: Want of Water, want of Wood, Shade and Shelter, want of Fruitfulness, and mixture of Grounds of several Natures, want of Prospect, want of level Grounds, want of Places at some near Distance for Sports of Hunting, Hawking, and Races; Too near the Sea, too remote, having the Commodity of Navigable Rivers, or the Discommodity of their Overflowing; Too far off from great Cities, which may hinder Business, or too near them which lurcheth all Provisions, and maketh every thing dear: Where a Man hath a great Living laid together, and where he is scanted. All which, as it is impossible perhaps to find together, so it is good to know them, and think of them, that a Man may take as many as he can; And if he have several Dwellings, that he sort them so, that what he wanteth in the one, he may find in the other. *Lucullus* answered *Pompey* well, who when he saw his Stately Galleries and Rooms so large and lightsome in one of his *Houses*, said, *Surely an excellent Place for Summer, but how do you in Winter?* *Lucullus* answered, *Why do you not think me as wise as some Fowls are, that ever change their abode towards the Winter?*

To

To pass from the *Seat* to the *House* it self, we will do as *Cicero* doth in the Orator's Art, who writes Books *De Oratore*, and a Book he Entitles *Orator*; whereof the former delivers the Precepts of the *Art*, and the latter the *Perfection*. We will therefore describe a *Princely Palace*, making a brief model thereof. For it is strange to see now in *Europe* such huge *Buildings*, as the *Vatican*, and *Escurial*, and some others be, and yet scarce a very fair Room in them.

First therefore, I say, you cannot have a perfect *Palace*, except you have two several Sides; a Side for the *Banquet*, as is spoken of in the Book of *Hester*, and a Side for the *Houshold*; the one for Feasts and Triumphs, and the other for Dwelling. I understand both these Sides to be not only Returns, but Parts of the *Front*, and to be uniform without, though severally Partitioned within, and to be on both sides of a great and *Stately Tower* in the midst of the *Front*, that as it were joyneth them together on either hand. I would have on the side of the *Banquet* in Front one only *goodly Room* above Stairs, of some forty foot high, and under it a Room for a *Dressing* or *Preparing Place* at times of Triumphs. On the other side, which is the *Houshold* side, I wish it divided at the first into a *Hall* and a *Chappel*, (with a Partition between) both of good state and bigness, and those not to go all the length, but to have at the further end a *Winter* and a *Summer Parlor*, both fair; and under these Rooms, a fair and large *Cellar* sunk under

Ground; and likewise some *Privy Kitchens*, with *Butteries* and *Pantries*, and the like. As for the *Tower*, I would have it two Stories, of eighteen foot high apiece above the two Wings, and goodly *Leads* upon the Top, railed with *Statua's* interposed, and the same *Tower* to be divided into Rooms as shall be thought fit; the Stairs likewise to the upper Rooms, let them be upon a fair open *Newel*, and finely railed in with *Images* of *Wood*, cast into a Brass colour, and a very fair Landing *Place* at the Top. But this to be, if you do not point any of the lower Rooms for a Dining Place of Servants, for otherwise you shall have the Servants Dinner after your own; for the steam of it will come up as in a Tunnel. And so much for the *Front*, only I understand the Heighth of the first Stairs to be sixteen Foot, which is the Heighth of the lower Room.

Beyond this *Front* is there to be a fair *Court*, but three sides of it of a far lower *Building* than the *Front*. And in all the four Corners of the Court fair Stair-Cases, cast into *Turrets* on the out side, and not within the Row of *Buildings* themselves. But those *Towers* are not to be of the height of the *Front*, but rather proportionable to the lower *Building*. Let the *Court* not be Paved, for that striketh up a great Heat in Summer, and much Cold in Winter; but only some Side-Alleys, with a Cross, and the *Quarters* to Graze being kept Shorn, but not too near Shorn. The *Row* of *Return* on the *Banquet Side*, let it be all *Stately Galleries*, in which *Galleries* let there

be three, or five fine *Cupola's* in the length of it; placed at equal distance, and fine *Coloured Windows* of several Works. On the Houshold side, *Chambers* of *Presence* and ordinary Entertainment, with some *Bed-Chambers*, and let all three Sides be a double House, without thorow Lights on the Sides, that you may have Rooms from the Sun, both for Fore-noon and After-noon. Cast it also, that you may have Rooms both for Summer and Winter, Shady for Summer, and Warm for Winter. You shall have sometimes fair *Houses* so full of Glass, that one cannot tell where to become to be out of the Sun, or Cold, for *Inbowed Windows* I hold them of good use; (in Cities indeed *Upright* do better, in respect of the Uniformity towards the Street) for they be pretty Retiring Places for Conference; and besides, they keep both the Wind and the Sun off: For that which would strike almost through the Room, doth scarce pass the *Window*. But let them be but few, four in the *Court* on the Sides only.

Beyond this *Court* let there be an *Inward Court* of the same Square and Height, which is to be environed with the *Garden* on all sides; and in the inside Cloistered upon all sides; upon decent and beautiful Arches, as high as the first Story. On the *Under Story* towards the *Garden*, let it be turned to a *Grotta*, or place of Shade or Estivation; and only have opening and *Windows* towards the *Garden*, and be level upon Floor, no whit sunk under Ground, to avoid all dampish-

ness: And let there be a *Fountain*, or some fair *Work of Statua's* in the midst of this *Court*, and to be Paved as the other *Court* was. These *Buildings* to be for *Privy Lodgings* on both Sides, and the End for *Privy Galleries*: whereof you must fore-see that one of them be for an *Infirmary*, if the Prince or any special Person should be Sick, with *Chambers*, *Bed-Chambers*, *Anticamera*, and *Recamera*, joyning to it: This upon the second Story. Upon the *Ground Story* a fair *Gallery*, open upon *Pillars*; and upon the *third Story* likewise, an *open Gallery* upon *Pillars*, to take the Prospect and Freshness of the *Garden*. At both Corners of the further'st Side, by way of Return, let there be two Delicate or Rich *Cabinets*, daintily Paved, Richly Hanged, Glazed with *Crystalline Glass*, and a Rich *Cupola* in the midst, and all other Elegancy that may be thought upon. In the *Upper Gallery* too I wish that there may be, if the Place will yield it, some *Fountains* running in divers Places from the Wall, with some fine Avoidances. And thus much for the model of the Palace; save that you must have, before you come to the *Front*, three Courts: and a *Green Court Plain*, with a Wall about it; a *Second Court* of the same, but more Garnished, with little Turrets, or rather Embellishments upon the Wall; and a *third Court*, to make a Square with the *Front*, but not to be Built, nor yet Enclosed with a Naked Wall, but Enclosed with *Taraſſes* leaded aloft, and fairly Garnished on the three sides; and Cloystered on the in-side

with Pillars, and not with Arches below. As for *Offices*, let them ſtand at diſtance with ſome *Low-Galleries*, to paſs from them to the *Palace* it ſelf.

XLVI.

Of Gardens.

GOD *Almighty* firſt Planted a *Garden*; and indeed it is the pureſt of Human pleaſures. It is the greateſt refreſhment to the Spirits of Man; without which, *Buildings* and *Palaces* are but groſs Handy-works. And a Man ſhall ever ſee, that when Ages grow to Civility and Elegancy, Men come to *Build Stately*, ſooner than to *Garden Finely*: as if *Gardening* were the greater Perfection. I do hold it in the Royal Ordering of *Gardens*, there ought to be *Gardens* for all the Months in the Year, in which, ſeverally, things of Beauty may be then in ſeaſon. For *December* and *January*, and the latter part of *November*, you muſt take ſuch things as are green all Winter; Holly, Ivy, Bays, Juniper, Cypreſs Trees, Eughs, Pine-Apple Trees, Fir-Trees, Roſemary, Lavender, Perriwinckle the White, the Purple, and the Blew, Germander, Flags, Orenge-Trees, Lemmon-Trees, and Myrtle, if they be ſtoved, and ſweet Marjoram warm ſets. There followeth for the latter part of *January* and *February*, the Mezerion Tree, which then bloſſoms, Crocus Vernus, both the Yellow and

the Grey, Prim-Roſes, Anemones, the Early Tulippa, Hyacinthus Orientalis, Chamairis, Frettellaria. For *March* there comes Violets, ſpecially the Single Blew, which are Earlieſt, the Yellow Daffadil, the Daizy, the Almond-Tree in Bloſſom, the Peach-Tree in Bloſſom, the Cornelian-Tree in Bloſſom, ſweet Briar. In *April* follow the double White Violet, the Wall-Flower, the Stock Gilly-Flower, the Cowſlip, Flower-de-Lices, and Lillies of all Natures, Roſemary-Flower, the Tulippa, the Double Piony, the Pale Daffadil, the French Honey-Suckle, the Cherry-Tree in Bloſſom, the Damaſcen and Plumb-Trees in Bloſſom, the White Thorn in Leaf, the Lelack-Tree. In *May* and *June* come Pinks of all ſorts, ſpecially the Bluſh-Pink, Roſes of all kinds, except the Muſk, which comes later, Hony Suckles, Strawberries, Bugloſs, Columbine, the French Marygold, Flos Africanus, Cherry-Tree in Fruit, Ribes, Figs in Fruit, Raſps, Vine-Flowers, Lavender in Flowers, the Sweet Satyrian with the White Flower, Herba Muſcaria, Lilium Convallium, the Apple-Tree in Bloſſom. In *July* come Gilly-Flowers of all Varieties, Muſk-Roſes, and the Lime-Tree in Bloſſom, Early Pears and Plumbs in Fruit, Gennitings, Quadlings. In *Auguſt* come Plumbs of all ſorts in Fruit, Pears, Apricocks, Barberies, Filbeards, Muſk-Melons, Monks-hoods of all Colours. In *September* comes Grapes, Apples, Poppies of all Colours, Peaches, Melo-Cotones, Nectarines, Cornelians, Wardens, Quinces. In *October* and the

the beginning of *November*, come Services, Medlars, Bullises; Roses Cut or Removed to come late, Hollyoaks, and such like. These particulars are for the *Climate* of *London*: But my meaning is perceived, that you may have *Ver Perpetuum*, as the place affords.

And because the *Breath* of Flowers is far Sweeter in the Air, (where it comes and goes, like the Warbling of Musick) than in the Hand, therefore nothing is more fit for that Delight, than to know what be the *Flowers* and *Plants* that do best perfume the Air. Roses Damask and Red are Flowers tenacious of their Smells, so that you may walk by a whole Row of them, and find nothing of their Sweetness; yea, though it be in a Morning Dew. Bays likewise yield no Smell as they grow, Rosemary little, nor Sweet-Marjoram. That which above all others yields the *Sweetest Smell* in the *Air*, is the Violet, specially the White double Violet, which comes twice a year, about the middle of *April*, and about *Bartholomew-tide*. Next to that is the Musk Rose, then the Strawberry Leaves dying with a most excellent Cordial Smell. Then the Flower of the Vines, it is a little Dust, like the Dust of a Bent, which grows upon the Cluster in the first coming forth. Then Sweet-Briar, then Wall-Flowers, which are very delightful to be set under a Parlour, or lower Chamber Window. Then Pinks and Gilly-Flowers, specially the matted Pink, and Clove Gilly-Flower. Then the Flowers of the Lime-Tree. Then the Hony-

Suckles, so they be somewhat afar off. Of Bean-Flowers I speak not, because they are Field-Flowers. But those which *perfume* the *Air* most delightfully, not *passed* by as the rest, but being *Trodden upon* and *Crushed*, are three, that is, Burner, Wild-Time, and Water-Mints. Therefore you are to set whole Alleys of them, to have the Pleasure when you walk or tread.

For *Gardens*, (speaking of those which are indeed *Prince-like*, as we have done of *Buildings*) The Contents ought not well to be under *Thirty Acres of Ground*, and to be divided into three parts; a *Green* in the entrance, a *Heath* or *Desart* in the going forth, and the *Main Garden* in the midst, besides *Alleys* on both sides. And I like well, that four Acres of Ground be Assigned to the *Green*, six to the *Heath*, four and four to either *Side*, and twelve to the *Main Garden*. The *Green* hath two pleasures; the one, because nothing is more pleasant to the Eye than Green Grass kept finely shorn; the other, because it will give you a fair Alley in the midst, by which you may go in front upon a *Stately Hedge*, which is to enclose the *Garden*. But because the Alley will be long, and in great Heat of the Year or Day, you ought not to buy the shade in the *Garden*, by going in the Sun through the *Green*; therefore you are of either *Side* the *Green* to plant a *Covert Alley* upon Carpenters Work, about twelve foot in Heighth, by which you may go in shade into the *Garden*. As for the making of *Knots* or *Figures*, with *Divers Coloured Earths*, that

that they may lye under the Windows of the House, on that Side which the *Garden* ſtands, they be but toys, you may ſee as good ſights many times in Tarts. The *Garden* is beſt to be ſquare, encompaſſed on all the four Sides with a *Stately Arched Hedge*: the *Arches* to be upon *Pillars* of Carpenters Work, of ſome ten foot high, and ſix foot broad, and the *ſpaces* between of the ſame Dimenſion with the *Breadth* of the *Arch*. Over the *Arches* let there be an *Entire Hedg*, of ſome four foot high, framed alſo upon Carpenters Work, and upon the *Upper Hedge*, over every *Arch* a little *Turret*, with a *Belly*, enough to receive a *Cage* of *Birds*; and over every *Space* between the *Arches* ſome other little *Figure*, with broad Plates of *Round Coloured Glaſs* gilt, for the *Sun* to play upon. But this *Hedge* I intend to be raiſed upon a *Bank*, not ſteep, but gently ſlope, of ſome ſix foot, ſet all with *Flowers*. Alſo I underſtand, that this *Square* of the *Garden*, ſhould not be the whole breadth of the Ground, but to leave on the either ſide Ground enough for diverſity of *Side Alleys*, unto which the two *Covert Alleys* of the *Green* may deliver you; but there muſt be no *Alleys* with *Hedges* at either end of this great *Incloſure*: not at the *Higher End*, for letting your proſpect upon this fair Hedg from the *Green*; nor at the *further End*, for letting your proſpect from the *Hedge* through the *Arches* upon the *Heath*.

For

For the ordering of the Ground within the *Great Hedge*, I leave it to Variety of Devices: Advising nevertheless, that whatsoever form you cast it into; first it be not too busie, or full of Work; wherein I, for my part, do not like *Images cut out* in *Juniper*, or other *Garden-stuff*, they be for Children. *Little low Hedges*, Round like Welts, with some pretty *Pyramids*, I like well: And in some places *Fair Columns* upon Frames of Carpenters Work. I would also have the *Alleys* spacious and fair. You may have *closer Alleys* upon the *Side Grounds*, but none in the *Main Garden*. I wish also in the very middle a *fair Mount*, with three Ascents and Alleys, enough for four to walk abreast, which I would have to be perfect Circles, without any Bulwarks or Imboscments, and the *whole Mount* to be thirty foot high, and some fine *Banquetting House*, with some *Chimneys* neatly cast, and without too much *Glass*.

For *Fountains*, they are a great Beauty and Refreshment, but *Pools* marr all, and make the *Garden* unwholsome, and full of Flies and Frogs. *Fountains* I intend to be of two Natures, the one that *sprinkleth* or *spouteth Water*, the other a *fair Receipt* of *Water*, of some thirty or forty foot square, but without Fish, or Slime, or Mud. For the first, the *Ornaments* of *Images Gilt*, or of *Marble*, which are in use, do well; but the main matter is, so to convey the Water, as it never stay, either in the Bowls, or in the Cistern, that the Water be never by rest *Discoloured*, *Green* or *Red*,

or

or the like; or gather any *Moſſineſs* or *Putrefaction*. Beſides that, it is to be cleanſed every day by the hand; alſo ſome ſteps up to it, and ſome *Fine Pavement* about it doth well. As for the other kind of *Fountain*, which we may call a *Bathing-Pool*, it may admit much Curioſity and Beauty, wherewith we will not trouble our ſelves; as that the bottom be finely paved, and with Images, the ſides likewiſe; and withal Embelliſhed with coloured Glaſs, and ſuch things of Luſtre; Encompaſſed alſo with fine Rails of low Statues. But the main point is the ſame, which we mentioned in the former kind of *Fountain*, which is, that the *Water* be in *perpetual motion*, fed by a Water higher than the *Pool*, and delivered into it by fair *Spouts*, and then diſcharged away under Ground by ſome equality of Bores, that it ſtay little. And for fine Devices of Arching Water without ſpilling, and making it riſe in ſeveral forms (of Feathers, Drinking-Glaſſes, Canopies, and the like) they be pretty things to look on, but nothing to Health and Sweetneſs.

For the *Heath*, which was the third part of our Plot, I wiſh it to be framed, as much as may be, to a *Natural Wildneſs*. *Trees* I would have none in it, but ſome *Thickets*, made only of *Sweet-Briar*, and *Hony-Suckle*, and ſome *Wild Vine* amongſt, and the Ground ſet with *Violets*, *Strawberries* and *Primroſes*: for theſe are Sweet and proſper in the Shade. And theſe to be in the *Heath*, here and there, not in any order. I like alſo little *Heaps*, in the Nature of *Mole-Hills* (ſuch

(such as are in *Wild-Heaths*) to be set, some with Wild-Thyme, some with Pinks, some with Germander, that gives a good flower to the eye; some with Periwinckle, some with Violets, some with Strawberries, some with Cowslips, some with Daizies, some with Red-Roses, some with Lilium Convallium, some with Sweet-Williams Red, some with Bears-foot, and the like Low Flowers, being withal Sweet and Sightly. Part of which *Heaps*, to be with *Standards*, of little *Bushes*, prickt upon their top, and part without; the *Standards* to be Roses, Juniper, Holly, Bear-berries (but here and there, because of the smell of their blossom) Red Currans, Gooseberries, Rosemary, Bays, Sweet-Briar, and such like. But these *Standards* to be kept with Cutting, that they grow not out of Course.

For the *Side Grounds*, you are to fit them with *variety* of *Alleys*, private, to give a full shade, some of them, wheresoever the Sun be. You are to frame some of them, likewise for shelter, that when the Wind blows sharp, you may walk as in a Gallery. And those Alleys must be likewise hedged at both ends, to keep out the Wind. and these *closer Alleys* must be ever finely Gravelled, and no Grass, because of going wet. In many of these *Alleys* likewise, you are to set *Fruit Trees* of all sorts; as well upon the Walls, as in Ranges. And this would be generally observed, that the *Borders* wherein you plant your *Fruit-Trees*, be fair and large, and low, and not steep, and set with *fine Flowers*, but thin and sparingly, lest

leſt they deceive the *Trees*. At the end of both the *ſide Grounds*, I would have a *Mount* of ſome pretty Height, leaving the Wall of the Enclo-ſure breaſt-high, to look abroad into the fields.

For the *Main Garden*, I do not deny, but there ſhould be ſome fair *Alleys* ranged on both ſides with *Fruit-Trees*, and ſome pretty Tufts of Fruit-Trees and *Arbors* with *Seats*, ſet in ſome decent Order; but theſe to be by no means ſet too thick; but to leave the *Main Garden* ſo, as it be not cloſe, but the Air open and free; for as for *Shade* I would have you reſt upon the *Al-leys* of the *Side Grounds*, there to walk, if you be diſpoſed, in the Heat of the Year or Day: but to make account, that the *Main Garden* is for the more temperate parts of the Year; and in the Heat of Summer, for the Morning, and the Evening, or Over-caſt Days.

For *Aviaries*, I like them not, except they be of that largeneſs, as they may be *turfed*, and have *Living Plants* and *Buſhes* ſet in them, that the *Birds* may have more ſcope, and natural Neaſt-ling, and that no *foulneſs* appear in the *floor* of the *Aviary*. So I have made a Plat-form of a *Princely Garden*, partly by Precept, partly by Drawing, not a Model, but ſome general Lines of it, and in this I have ſpared for no Coſt. But it is nothing, for *Great Princes*, that for the moſt part taking advice with Work-men, with no leſs Coſt, ſet their things together, and ſometimes add *Statua's* and ſuch things, for State and Mag-nificence, but nothing to the true pleaſure of a *Garden*.

Of

XLVII.

Of Negotiating.

IT is generally better to *deal* by Speech, than by Letter; and by the mediation of a Third, than by a mans ſelf. Letters are good, when a man would draw an Anſwer by Letter back again; or when it may ſerve for a mans Juſtification afterwards to produce his own Letter, or where it may be danger to be interrupted or heard by pieces. To *deal* in *Perſon* is good, when a mans face breedeth Regard, as commonly with Inferiors; or in tender Caſes, where a mans Eye, upon the Countenance of him with whom he ſpeaketh, may give him a Direction how far to go: And generally where a man will reſerve to himſelf liberty either to *Diſavow*, or to *Expound*. In choice of *Inſtruments*, it is better to chuſe men of a plainer ſort that are like to do that is committed to them, and to report back again faithfully the ſucceſs, than thoſe that are cunning to contrive out of other mens Buſineſs ſomewhat to grace themſelves, and will help the matter in Report for ſatisfaction ſake. Uſe alſo ſuch Perſons as affect the buſineſs wherein they are imployed, for that quickeneth much; and ſuch as are fit for the matter: As bold men for Expoſtulation, fair ſpoken men for Perſwaſion, crafty men for Enquiry and Obſervation, froward and abſurd men for

for buſineſs that doth not well bear out it ſelf. Uſe alſo ſuch as have been lucky, and prevailed before in things wherein you have employed them, for that breeds confidence, and they will ſtrive to maintain their Preſcription. It is better to ſound a Perſon with whom one *Deals* afar off, than to fall upon the point at firſt; except you mean to ſurpriſe him by ſome ſhort Queſtion. It is better *Dealing* with men in Appetite, than with thoſe that are where they would be. If a man *Deal* with another upon Conditions, the ſtart of the firſt Performance is all, which a man cannot reaſonably Demand, except either the nature of the thing be ſuch which muſt go before; or elſe a man can perſwade the other Party that he ſhall ſtill need him in ſome other thing; or elſe that he be counted the honeſter man. All Practice is to *Diſcover*, or to *Work*: Men *Diſcover* themſelves in Truſt, in Paſſion, at unawares, and of neceſſity, when they would have ſomewhat done, and cannot find an apt Pretext. If you would *Work* any man, you muſt either know his nature and faſhions, and ſo lead him; or his ends, and ſo perſwade him; or his weakneſs and diſadvantages, and ſo awe him; or thoſe that have Intereſt in him, and ſo govern him. In *Dealing* with cunning Perſons we muſt ever conſider their ends to interpret their Speeches; and it is good to ſay little to them, and that which they leaſt look for. In all *Negotiations* of difficulty a man may not look too ſow and reap at once, but muſt prepare buſineſs, and ſo ripen it by degrees.

Of

XLVIII.

Of Followers and Friends.

COSTLY *Followers* are not to be liked, lest while a man maketh his Train longer, he makes his Wings shorter. I reckon to be costly, not them alone which charge the Purse, but which are wearisome and importunate in Suits. Ordinary *Followers* ought to challenge no higher Conditions than Countenance, Recommendation, and Protection from wrongs. Factious *Followers* are worse to be liked, which follow not upon Affection to him with whom they range themselves, but upon Discontentment conceived against some other; whereupon commonly ensueth that ill Intelligence that we many times set between great Parsonages. Likewise glorious *Followers* who make themselves as Trumpets of Commendation of those that follow, are full of Inconvenience; for they taint business through want of Secrecy, and they export Honour from a Man, and make him a return in Envy. There is a kind of *Followers* likewise which are dangerous, being indeed Espials; which enquire the secrets of the House, and bear Tales of them to other; yet such men, many times, are in great favour; for they are officious, and commonly exchange Tales, the *Following* by certain *Estates* of men, answerable to that which a great Person himself

himself profesſeth, (as of Souldiers to him that hath been employed in the Wars, and the like) hath ever been a thing Civil, and well taken even in Monarchies; ſo it be without too much pomp of popularity. But the moſt honourable kind of *Following*, is to be followed, as one that apprehendeth to advance Vertue and Deſert in all ſorts of Perſons. And yet where there is no eminent odds in ſufficiency, it is better to take with the more paſſable, than with the more able. And beſides, to ſpeak truth, in baſe times Active men are of more uſe than Vertuous. It is true, that in Government it is good to uſe men of one Rank equally; for to countenance ſome extraordinarily, is to make them inſolent, and the reſt diſcontent, becauſe they may claim a due. But contrariwiſe, in favour to uſe men with much difference and election is good; for it maketh the Perſons preferred more thankful, and the reſt more officious, becauſe all is of favour. It is good diſcretion not to make too much of any man at the firſt; becauſe one cannot hold out that proportion. To be governed (as we call it) by one, is not ſafe; for it ſhews Softneſs, and gives a freedom to Scandal and Diſreputation; for thoſe that would not cenſure or ſpeak ill of a man immediately, will talk more boldly of thoſe that are ſo great with them, and thereby wound their honour, yet to be diſtracted with many is worſe; for it makes men to be of the laſt impreſſion, and full of Change. To take advice of ſome few *Friends* is ever honourable;

for *Lookers on, many times, see more than Gamesters, and the Vale best discovereth the Hill.* There is little Friendship in the World, and least of all between equals, which was wont to be magnified. That that is, is between Superior and Inferior, whose Fortunes may comprehend one the other.

XLIX.

Of Suitors.

MANY ill matters and projects are undertaken, and private *Suits* do putrifie the publick Good. Many good matters are undertaken with bad minds, I mean, not only corrupt minds, but crafty minds that intend not Performance. Some embrace *Suits* which never mean to deal effectually in them; but if they see there may be life in the matter by some other mean, they will be content to win a Thank, or take a second Reward, or at least to make use in the mean time of the *Suitors* hopes. Some take hold of *Suits* only for an occasion to cross some other, or to make an information, whereof they could not otherwise have apt Pretext, without care what become of the *Suit* when that turn is serv'd; or generally, to make other mens business a kind of Entertainment to bring in their own. Nay, some undertake *Suits* with a full purpose to let them fall, to the end, to gratifie the adverse Party or

or Competitor. Surely there is in ſome ſort a Right in every *Suit*; either a Right of Equity, if it be a *Suit* of Controverſie; or a Right of Deſert, if it be a *Suit* of Petition. If Affection lead a man to favour the wrong ſide in Juſtice, let him rather uſe his Countenance to compound the matter, than to carry it. If Affection lead a man to favour the leſs worthy in Deſert, let him do it without depraving or diſabling the better Deſerver. In *Suits* which a man doth not well underſtand, it is good to refer them to ſome Friend of Truſt and Judgment, that may report, whether he may deal in them with Honour; but let him chuſe well his Referendaries, for elſe he may be led by the Noſe. *Suitors* are ſo diſtaſted with Delays and Abuſes, that plain dealing in denying to deal in *Suits* at firſt, and reporting the ſucceſs barely, and in challenging no more thanks than one hath deſerved, is grown not only Honourable, but alſo Gracious. In *Suits* of Favour, the firſt coming ought to take little place; ſo far forth Conſideration may be had of his truſt, that if intelligence of the matter could not otherwiſe have been had, but by him, advantage be not taken of the Note, but the Party left to his other means, and in ſome ſort recompenced for his Diſcovery. To be ignorant of the value of a *Suit* is ſimplicity; as well as to be ignorant of the Right thereof is want of Conſcience. Secrecy in *Suits* is a great mean of obtaining; for voycing them to be in forwardneſs, may diſcourage ſome kind of *Sui-*

tors; but doth quicken and awaken others; but Timing of the *Suit* is the principal. Timing, I ſay, not only in reſpect of the Perſon that ſhould grant it, but in reſpect of thoſe which are like to croſs it. Let a man in the choice of his mean, rather chuſe the fitteſt mean, than the greateſt mean; and rather them that deal in certain Things, than thoſe that are General. The Reparation of a Denial, is ſometimes equal to the firſt Grant; if a man ſhew himſelf, neither dejected, nor diſcontented: *Iniquum petas, ut Æquum feras*; is a good rule, where a man hath ſtrength of Favour: But otherwiſe a man were better riſe in his *Suit*; for he that would have ventured at firſt to have loſt the *Suitor*, will not in the Concluſion loſe both the *Suitor*, and his own former favour. Nothing is thought ſo eaſie a requeſt to a great Perſon as his Letter; and yet, if it be not in a good Cauſe, it is ſo much out of his Reputation. There are no worſe Inſtruments than theſe general Contrivers of *Suits*, for they are but a kind of poyſon and infection to publick proceedings.

Of

L.

Of Studies.

STUDIES ſerve for delight, for Ornament, and for Ability. Their chief uſe for Delight is in Privateneſs and Retiring; for Ornament is in Diſcourſe; and for Ability, is in the Judgment and Diſpoſition of Buſineſs. For expert men can execute, and perhaps judge of particulars one by one; but the general Counſels, and the Plots, and Marſhalling of Affairs, come beſt from thoſe that are *Learned*. To ſpend too much time in *Studies* is ſloth; to uſe them too much for Ornament is affectation; to make Judgment wholly by their Rules is the humour of a Scholar. They perfect Nature, and are perfected by experience: for Natural Abilities are like Natural Plants, that need Proyning by *Study*, and *Studies* themſelves do give forth Directions too much at large, except they be bounded in by experience. Crafty men contemn *Studies*, Simple men admire them, and Wiſe men uſe them: For they teach not their own uſe, but that is a Wiſdom without them, and above them, won by Obſervation. Read not to Contradict and Confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find Talk and Diſcourſe, but to weigh and conſider. Some *Books* are to be taſted, others to be ſwallowed, and ſome few to

be chewed and digested; that is, some *Books* are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Some *Books* also may be read by Deputy, and Extracts made of them by others: But that would be only in the less important Arguments, and the meaner sort of *Books*, else distilled *Books* are like common distilled Waters, flashy things. Reading maketh a full man; Conference a ready man; and Writing an exact man. And therefore, if a man Write little, he had need have a great memory; if he Confer little, he had need have a present wit; and if he Read little, he had need have much cunning to seem to know that he doth not. *Histories* make men Wise, *Poets* Witty, the *Mathematicks* Subtil, *Natural Philosophy* Deep, *Moral* Grave, *Logick* and *Rhetorick* able to Contend. *Abeunt Studia in Mores*; Nay, there is no Stand or Impediment in the Wit, but may be wrought out by fit *Studies*: Like as Diseases of the Body may have appropriate Exercises. Bowling is good for the Stone and Reins, Shooting for the Lungs and Brest, Gentle Walking for the Stomach, Riding for the Head, and the like. So if a mans Wit be wandering, let him *Study* the *Mathematicks*; for in Demonstrations, if his Wit be called away never so little, he must begin again: If his Wit be not apt to distinguish or find differences, let him *Study* the *School-Men*; for they are *Cumini sectores*. If he be not apt to beat over matters, and to call up one thing to prove

and

and illustrate another, let him *Study* the *Lawyers Cases*; so every Defect of the mind may have a special Receipt.

LI.

Of Faction.

MANY have an Opinion not Wise; that for a Prince to govern his Estate, or for a great Person to govern his Proceedings, according to the respect of *Factions*, is a principal part of Policy; whereas contrariwise, the chiefest Wisdom is, either in ordering those things which are General, and wherein them of several *Factions* do nevertheless agree; or in dealing with correspondence to particular persons one by one. But I say not, that the consideration of *Factions* is to be neglected. Mean men in their rising must adhere, but great men that have strength in themselves, were better to maintain themselves indifferent and Neutral. Yet even in beginners to adhere so moderately, as he be a man of the one *Faction*, which is most pallable with the other, commonly giveth best way. The lower and weaker *Faction* is the firmer in Conjunction: and it is often seen, that a few that are stiff, do tire out a great number that are more moderate. When one of the *Factions* is extinguished, the remaining subdivideth: As the *Faction* between *Lucullus*, and the rest of the Nobles of the Se-

nate (which they called *Optimates*) held out a while againſt the *Faction* of *Pompey* and *Caſar*; but when the Senates Authority was pulled down, *Caſar* and *Pompey* ſoon after brake. The *Faction* or Party of *Antonius*, and *Octavianus Caſar*, againſt *Brutus* and *Caſſius*, held out likewiſe for a time: But when *Brutus* and *Caſſius* were overthrown, then ſoon after *Antonius* and *Octavianus* brake and ſubdivided. Theſe examples are of Wars, but the ſame holdeth in private *Factions*: And therefore thoſe that are Seconds in *Factions*, do many times, when the *Faction* ſubdivideth, prove Principals; but many times alſo they prove Cyphers and caſhier'd. For many a mans ſtrength is in oppoſition, and when that faileth, he groweth out of uſe. It is commonly ſeen, that men once placed, take in with the contrary *Faction* to that, by which they enter, thinking belike that they have their firſt ſure, and now are ready for a new Purchaſe. The Traitor in *Faction* lightly goeth away with it; for when matters have ſtuck long in Ballancing, the winning of ſome one man caſteth them, and he getteth all the thanks. The even carriage between two *Factions*, proceedeth not always of moderation, but of a trueneſs to a mans ſelf, with end to make uſe of both. Certainly in *Italy*, they hold it a little ſuſpect in *Popes*, when they have often in their mouth *padre commune*, and take it to be a Sign of one that meaneth to refer all to the greatneſs of his own Houſe. Kings had need beware, how they ſide themſelves, and

make

make themſelves as of a *Faction* or Party; for Leagues within the State are ever pernicious to Monarchies; for they raiſe an Obligation, Paramount to Obligation of Soveraignty, and make the King, *Tanquam unus ex nobis*; as was to be ſeen in the *League* of *France*. When *Factions* are carried too high, and too violently, it is a ſign of weakneſs in Princes, and much to the prejudice both of their Authority and Buſineſs. The motions of *Factions* under Kings, ought to be like the motions (as the *Aſtronomers* ſpeak) of the Inferior Orbs, which may have their proper motions, but yet ſtill are quietly carried by the higher motion of *Primum Mobile*.

LII.

Of Ceremonies and Reſpects.

HE that is only real, had need have exceeding great parts of Virtue; as the Stone had need to be rich, that is ſet without foil. But if a man mark it well, it is in praiſe and commendation of men, as it is in gettings and gains: For the Proverb is true, *That light gains makes heavy purſes*; for light gains come thick, whereas great come but now and then. So it is true, that ſmall matters win great commendation, becauſe they are continually in uſe, and in note; whereas the occaſion of any great Virtue cometh but on Feſtivals. Therefore it doth much add to a Man's

mans Reputation, and is, (as Queen *Iſabella* ſaid) *Like perpetual Letters Commendatory*, to have good *forms*. To attain them, it almoſt ſufficeth not to deſpiſe them; for ſo ſhall a man obſerve them in others: And let him truſt himſelf with the reſt. For if he labour too much to expreſs them, he ſhall loſe their Grace, which is to be Natural and Unaffected. Some mens behaviour is like a Verſe, wherein every Syllable is meaſured. How can a man comprehend great matters, that breaketh his mind too much to ſmall obſervations? Not to uſe *Ceremonies* at all, is to teach others not to uſe them again; and ſo diminiſh *reſpect* to himſelf: eſpecially, they are not to be omitted to ſtrangers, and formal Natures: But the dwelling upon them, and exalting them above the Moon, is not only tedious, but doth diminiſh the faith and credit of him that ſpeaks. And certainly, there is a kind of conveying of effectual and imprinting Paſſions amongſt Complements, which is of ſingular uſe, if a man can hit upon it. Amongſt a mans Peers, a man ſhall be ſure of familiarity; and therefore it is good a little to keep State. Amongſt a mans Inferiors, one ſhall be ſure of Reverence; and therefore it is good a little to be familiar. He that is too much in any thing, ſo that he giveth another occaſion of Society, maketh himſelf cheap. To apply ones ſelf to others is good, ſo it be with Demonſtration, that a man doth it upon regard, and not upon facility. It is a good Precept generally in ſeconding another, yet to add

ſomewhat

ſomewhat of ones own: As if you would grant his opinion, let it be with ſome diſtinction; if you will follow his Motion, let it be with Condition; if you allow his Counſel, let it be with alledging further Reaſon. Men had need beware, how they be too perfect in Complements: For be they never ſo ſufficient otherwiſe, their enviers will be ſure to give them that Attribute, to the diſadvantage of their greater Vertues. It is loſs alſo in buſineſs, to be too full of *reſpects*, or to be too curious in obſerving Times and Opportunities. *Solomon* ſaith, *He that conſidereth the Wind ſhall not ſow, and he that looketh to the Clouds ſhall not reap.* A wiſe man will make more opportunities than he finds. Mens Behaviour ſhould be like their Apparel, not too Strait, or point device, but free for Exerciſe or Motion.

LIII.

Of Praiſe.

PRAISE is the Reflection of Vertue, but it is as the Glaſs or Body which giveth the Reflection. If it be from the common People, it is commonly falſe and naught, and rather followeth vain Perſons than vertuous. For the common People underſtand not many excellent vertues: the loweſt vertues draw *praiſe* from them, the middle vertues work in them Aſtoniſhment

ment or Admiration, but of the highest Virtues they have no sense or perceiving at all, but shews and *Species virtutibus similes* serve best with them. Certainly Fame is like a River, that beareth up things light and swoln, and drowns things weighty and solid: But if Persons of Quality and Judgment concur, then it is, (as the Scripture saith) *Nomen bonum instar unguenti fragrantis.* It filleth all round about, and will not easily away: For the Odours of Oyntments are more durable than those of Flowers. There be so many false Points of *Praise* that a man may justly hold it a suspect. Some *Praises* proceed meerly of Flattery, and if he be an ordinary Flatterer, he will have certain common Attributes, which may serve every man: If he be a cunning Flatterer, he will follow the Arch Flatterer, which is a man's self: And wherein a man thinketh best of himself, therein the Flatterer will uphold him most; but if he be an impudent Flatterer, look wherein a man is conscious to himself that he is most defective, and is most out of Countenance in himself, that will the Flatterer Entitle him to perforce, *Spreta Conscientia.* Some *Praises* come of good wishes and respects, which is a form due in Civility to Kings and great Persons, *Laudando præcipere*, when by telling men what they are, they represent to them what they should be. Some men are praised maliciously to their hurt, thereby to stir envy and jealousie towards them, *Pessimum genus inimicorum laudantium*, insomuch as it was a Proverb amongst the

the *Grecians*; that *he that was praiſed to his hurt ſhould have a puſh riſe upon his Noſe*; as we ſay, *That a bliſter will riſe upon ones Tongue that tell a lye.* Certainly moderate *praiſe*, uſed with opportunity, and not vulgar, is that which doth the good. *Solomon* ſaith, *He that praiſeth his friend aloud, riſing early, it ſhall be to him no better than a Curſe.* Too much magnifying of a man or matter, doth irritate contradiction, and procure envy and ſcorn. To *praiſe* a man's ſelf cannot be decent, except it be in rare caſes; but to *praiſe* a Man's Office or Profeſſion, he may do it with good Grace, and with a kind of Magnanimity. The *Cardinals* of *Rome*, which are Theologues, and Fryers, and School-men have a Phraſe of notable contempt and ſcorn towards civil buſineſs: For they call all Temporal buſineſs, of Wars, Embaſſages, Judicature, and other employments, *Shirreri*, which is *Under-Sheriffries*, as if they were but matters for Under-Sheriffs and Catchpoles: though many times thoſe *Under-Sheriffries* do more good than their high ſpeculations. Saint *Paul*, when he boaſts of himſelf, he doth oft interlace; *I ſpeak like a Fool*; but ſpeaking of his Calling, he ſaith, *Magnifico Apoſtolatum meum.*

LIV.

Of Vain Glory.

IT was prettily deviſed of *Æſop*, *The Fly ſate upon the Axletree of the Chariot-Wheel, and ſaid, What a Duſt do I raiſe?* So are there ſome *vain Perſons*, that whatſoever goeth alone, or moveth upon greater means, if they have never ſo little hand in it, they think it is they that carry it. They that are *glorious*, muſt needs be *factious*; for all bravery ſtands upon compariſons. They muſt needs be violent, to make good their own vaunts. Neither can they be ſecret, and therefore not effectual; but according to the *French* Proverb, *Beaucoup de Bruit, peu de Fruit; Much Bruit, little Fruit.* Yet certainly there is uſe of this Quality in Civil Affairs. Where there is an Opinion and Fame to be created, either of Virtue or Greatneſs, theſe men are good Trumpeters. Again, as *Titus Livius* noteth in the caſe of *Antiochus*, and the *Ætolians*, *There are ſometimes great effects of croſs Lies*: As if a man that Negotiates between two Princes, to draw them to joyn in a War againſt the third, doth extol the Forces of either of them above meaſure, the one to the other: And ſometimes he that deals between man and man, raiſeth his own credit with both, by pretending greater Intereſt than he hath in either. And in theſe and the like

like kinds, it often falls out, that *somewhat* is produced of *nothing*: For Lies are ſufficient to breed Opinion, and Opinion brings on Subſtance. In Military Commanders and Souldiers, *Vain Glory* is an eſſential Point: For as Iron ſharpens Iron, ſo by *Glory* one Courage ſharpneth another. In caſes of great Enterpriſe, upon Charge and Adventure, a Compoſition of *Glorious* Natures doth put Life into Buſineſs; and thoſe that are of ſolid and ſober Natures have more of the Ballaſt than of the Sail. In Fame of Learning the Flight will be ſlow, without ſome Feathers of *Oſtentation*. *Qui de contemnendâ Gloriâ Libros ſcribunt, Nomen ſuum inſcribunt. Socrates, Ariſtotle, Galen*, were men full of *Oſtentation*. Certainly *Vain Glory* helpeth to perpetuate a man's Memory; and Virtue was never ſo beholden to human Nature, as it received his due at the Second Hand. Neither had the Fame of *Cicero, Seneca, Plinius Secundus*, born her Age ſo well, if it had not been joyned with ſome *Vanity* in themſelves; like unto *Varniſh*, that makes Ceilings not only ſhine, but laſt. But all this while, when I ſpeak of *Vain Glory*, I mean not of that property that *Tacitus* doth attribute to *Mucianus*, *Omnium quæ dixerat, feceratque, Arte quadam Oſtentator*: For that proceeds not of *Vanity*, but of Natural Magnanimity and Diſcretion. And in ſome Perſons, is not only Comely, but Gracious. For Excuſations, Ceſſions, Modeſty it ſelf well governed, are but Arts of *Oſtentation*. And amongſt thoſe Arts, there is none

better

better than that which *Plinius Secundus* speaketh of, which is to be liberal of Praise and Commendation to others, in that wherein a man's self hath any Perfection. For, saith *Pliny* very wittily, *In commending another, you do your self right: For he that you commend, is either Superior to you, in that you commend, or Inferior. If he be Inferior, if he be to be commended, you much more: if he be Superior, if he be not to be commended, you much less Glorious.* Men are the scorn of wise men, the admiration of Fools, the Idols of Parasites, and the Slaves of their own Vaunts.

LV.

Of Honour and Reputation.

THE Winning of *Honour* is but the revealing of Man's Virtue and Worth without Disadvantage. For some in their Actions do woo and affect *Honour* and *Reputation*; which sort of men are commonly much talked of, but inwardly little admired. And some, contrariwise, darken their Virtue in the shew of it, so as they be undervalued in Opinion. If a man perform that which hath not been attempted before, or attempted and given over, or hath been atchieved, but not with so good circumstance, he shall purchase more *Honour*, than by affecting a matter of greater difficulty or virtue, wherein he is but a follower. If a man so temper his

Actions,

Actions, as in ſome one of them he doth content every Faction or Combination of People, the Muſick will be the fuller. A man is an ill Husband of his *Honour* that entreth into any Action, the failing wherein may diſgrace him more than the carrying of it through can *Honour* him. *Honour* that is gained and broken upon another, hath the quickeſt reflection, like Diamonds cut with Faſcets. And therefore let a man contend to excel any Competitors of his in *Honour*, in out-ſhooting them, if he can, in their own Bow. Diſcreet Followers and Servants help much to *Reputation: Omnis Fama à Domeſticis emanat.* Envy, which is the Canker of *Honour* is beſt extinguiſhed by declaring a man's ſelf in his ends, rather to ſeek Merit than Fame; and by attributing a man's ſucceſſes, rather to Divine Providence and Felicity, than to his own Virtue or Policy. The true marſhalling of the Degrees of *Soveraign Honour*, are theſe. In the firſt place are, *Conditores Imperiorum, Founders of States*, and *Commonwealths*; ſuch as were *Romulus, Cyrus, Caſar, Ottoman, Iſmael.* In the ſecond place are, *Legiſlatores, Law-givers*; which are alſo called *Second Founders*, or *Perpetui Principes*, becauſe they govern by their Ordinances after they are gone; ſuch were *Lycurgus, Solon, Juſtinian, Edgar, Alphonſus* of *Caſtile* the wiſe, that made the *Siete Patridas.* In the third place are, *Liberatores* or *Salvatores*; ſuch as compound the long miſeries of Civil Wars, or deliver their Countreys from Servitude of Strangers or Tyrants; as *Au-*

gustus Cæsar, Vespasianus, Aurelianus, Theodoricus, King *Henry* the Seventh of *England*, King *Henry* the Fourth of *France*. In the fourth place are *Propagatores*, or *Propugnatores Imperii*; such as in Honourable Wars enlarge their Territories, or make noble defence against Invaders. And in the last place are *Patres Patriæ*, which Reign justly, and make the times good wherein they live. Both which last kinds need no Examples, they are in such number. Degrees of *Honour* in Subjects are: First, *Participes Curarum*, those upon whom Princes do discharge the greatest Weight of their Affairs, their *Right Hands*, as we call them. The next are, *Duces Belli*, *Great Leaders*, such as are Princes Lieutenants, and do them notable Services in the Wars. The third are *Gratiosi*, *Favourites*, such as need not this scantling, to be Solace to the Soveraign, and harmless to the People. And the fourth *Negotiis Pares*, such as have great places under Princes, and execute their places with sufficiency. There is an *Honour* likewise which may be ranked amongst the greatest, which hapneth rarely, that is, of such as *Sacrifice themselves to Death* or *Danger* for the *Good* of their *Country*; as was *M. Regulus*, and the two *Decii*.

Of

LVI.

Of Judicature.

JUDGES ought to remember, that their Office is, *Jus dicere*, and not *Jus dare*: *To interpret Law*, and not to *make Law*, or *give Law*. Else will it be like the Authority claimed by the *Church* of *Rome*, which under pretext of Exposition of Scripture, doth not ſtick to add and alter, and to pronounce that which they do not find; and by *ſhew* of *Antiquity* to introduce *Novelty*. *Judges* ought to be more Learned than Witty, more Reverend than Plauſible, and more Adviſed than Confident. Above all things Integrity is their Portion and proper Virtue: *Curſed* (ſaith the Law) *is he that removeth the Land Mark*. The miſlayer of a *meer-Stone* is to blame; but it is the unjuſt *Judg* that is the Capital Remover of Land-Marks, when he defineth amiſs of Lands and Property. One foul Sentence doth more hurt than many foul Examples; for theſe do but corrupt the Stream, the other corrupteth the Fountain. So ſaith *Solomon*, *Fons turbatus, & Vena corrupta, eſt Juſtus cadens in cauſa ſua coram Adverſario*. The Office of *Judges* may have reference unto the *Parties that ſue*, unto the *Advocates that plead*, unto the *Clerks* and *Miniſters* of *Juſtice* underneath them, and to the *Sovereign* or *State* above them.

First, For the *Causes* or *Parties that sue. There be* (saith the Scripture) *that turn Judgment into Wormwood*; and surely there be also that turn it into *Vinegar*; for Injustice maketh it bitter, and Delays make it sour. The principal Duty of a *Judg* is to suppress force and fraud, whereof force is the more pernicious when it is open, and fraud when it is close and disguised. Add thereto contentious Suits, which ought to be spewed out as the Surfeit of Courts. A *Judg* ought to prepare his way to a Just Sentence, as God useth to prepare his way by *raising Valleys*, and *taking down Hills*: So when there appeareth on either side an high Hand, violent Prosecution, cunning Advantages taken, Combination, Power, Great Counsel, then is the Virtue of a Judg seen, to make Inequality Equal, that he may plant his *Judgment* as upon an even Ground. *Qui fortiter emungit, elicit sanguinem*; and where the Wine-Press is hard wrought, it yields a harsh Wine that tastes of the Grape-Stone. *Judges* must beware of hard Constructions, and strained Inferences; for there is no worse Torture than the Torture of Laws, specially, in case of Laws penal; they ought to have care, that that which was meant for Terror, be not turned into Rigor, and that they bring not upon the People that Shower whereof the Scripture speaketh, *Pluet super eos Laqueos*: for penal Laws pressed are a *Shower* of *Snares* upon the People. Therefore let *Penal Laws*, if they have been Sleepers of long, or if they be grown unfit for the present Time,

Time, be by wiſe *Judges* confined in the Execution, *Judicis Officium eſt, ut Res ita Tempora Rerum*, &c. In *Cauſes of Life* and *Death*, *Judges* ought (as far as the Law permitteth) in Juſtice to remember Mercy; and to caſt a ſevere Eye upon the Example, but a merciful Eye upon the Perſon.

Secondly, For the *Advocates* and *Council* that plead; Patience and Gravity of hearing is an eſſential part of Juſtice, and an over-ſpeaking *Judg* is no *well-tuned Cymbal*. It is no Grace to a *Judg*, firſt to find that which he might have heard in due time from the Bar, or to ſhew quickneſs of conceit in cutting off Evidence or Counſel too ſhort, or to prevent Informations by Queſtions though pertinent. The parts of a *Judg* in hearing are four: To direct the Evidence; to moderate length, repetition, or impertinency of Speech. To Recapitulate, Select, and Collate the material Points of that which hath been ſaid; And to give the Rule or Sentence. Whatſoever is above theſe, is too much; and proceedeth either of Glory and willingneſs to ſpeak, or of Impatience to hear, or of ſhortneſs of Memory, or of want of a ſtayed and equal Attention. It is a ſtrange thing to ſee, that the boldneſs of *Advocates* ſhould prevail with *Judges*; whereas they ſhould imitate *God* in whoſe Seat they ſit, who *repreſſeth the Preſumptuous, and giveth Grace to the Modeſt*. But it is more ſtrange, that *Judges* ſhould have noted Favourites; which cannot but cauſe multiplica-

tion of Fees, and suspicion of By-ways. There is due from the *Judge* to the *Advocate* some Commendation and Gracing, where *Causes* are well handled, and fair Pleaded; especially towards the side which obtaineth not; for that upholds in the *Client* the Reputation of his *Counsel*, and beats down in him the conceit of his *Cause*. There is likewise due to the *Publick* a civil Reprehension of *Advocates*, where there appeareth cunning Counsel, gross Neglect, slight Information, indiscreet Pressing, or an overbold Defence. And let not the *Counsel* at the Bar chop with the *Judge*, nor wind himself into the handling of the *Cause* anew, after the *Judge* hath declared his Sentence: But on the other side, let not the *Judge* meet the *Cause* half way, nor give occasion to the Party to say, *His Counsel or Proofs were not heard.*

Thirdly, For that that concerns *Clerks* and *Ministers*. The Place of *Justice* is an Hallowed Place; and therefore not only the Bench, but the Foot-pace, and Precincts, and Purprise thereof ought to be preserved without Scandal and Corruption. For certainly *Grapes* (as the Scripture saith) *will not be gathered of Thorns or Thistles*; neither can *Justice* yield her Fruit with Sweetness amongst the Briars and Brambles of Catching and Poling *Clerks* and *Ministers*. The Attendance of Courts is subject to four bad Instruments: First, Certain Persons that are sowers of Suits which make the Court swell, and the Country pine. The second sort is, Of those

that

that engage Courts in Quarrels of Jurisdiction, and are not truly *Amici Curiæ*, but *Parasiti Curiæ*, in puffing a Court up beyond her bounds, for their own Scraps and Advantage. The third sort is, Of those that may be accounted the Left Hands of Courts; Persons that are full of nimble and sinister tricks and shifts, whereby they pervert the plain and direct Courses of *Courts*, and bring Justice into oblique Lines and Labyrinths. And the fourth is, The Poller and Exacter of Fees, which justifies the common resemblance of the *Courts* of *Justice* to the *Bush*, whereunto while the Sheep flies for Defence in Weather, he is sure to lose part of his Fleece. On the other side, an *Ancient Clerk*, skilful in Precedents, wary in proceeding, and understanding in the *Business* of the *Court*, is an excellent Finger of a *Court*, and doth many times point the way to the *Judg* himself.

Fourthly, For that which may concern the *Soveraign* and *Estate*. *Judges* ought above all to remember the conclusion of the *Roman Twelve Tables*, *Salus Populi Suprema Lex*; and to know, that Laws, except they be in order to that end, are but things captious, and Oracles not well inspired. Therefore it is an happy thing in a *State*, when *Kings* and *States* do often consult with *Judges*; and again, when *Judges* do often consult with the *King* and *State*: The one, when there is a matter of Law intervenient in business of State; The other, when there is some consideration of State intervenient in matter of Law,

For many times the things deduced to *Judgment* may be *Meum* and *Tuum*, when the reaſon and conſequence thereof may Trench to point of *Eſtate*. I call matter of Eſtate not only the parts of *Soveraignty*, but whatſoever introduceth any great Alteration, or dangerous Precedent, or concerneth manifeſtly any great portion of People. And let no man weakly conceive, that Juſt Laws and true Policy have any *antipathy*: For they are like Spirits and Sinews, that one moves with the other. Let *Judges* alſo remember, That *Solomon's Throne* was ſupported by Lions on both ſides: Let them be Lions, but yet Lions under the *Throne*; being circumſpect, that they do not check or oppoſe any points of *Soveraignty*. Let not *Judges* alſo be ſo ignorant of their own right, as to think there is not left to them, as a Principal part of their Office, a wiſe Uſe and Application of Laws; for they may remember what the *Apoſtle* ſaith of a greater *Law* than theirs, *Nos ſcimus quia Lex bona eſt, modo quis ea utatur legitime.*

LVII.

Of Anger.

TO ſeek to extinguiſh *Anger* utterly, is but a bravery of the Stoicks. We have better Oracles: *Be angry, but ſin not. Let not the Sun go down upon your anger.* *Anger* muſt be limited and

and confined, both in Race and Time. We will firſt ſpeak, how the Natural Inclination and Habit *to be angry*, may be attempted and calmed. Secondly, How the particular motions of *anger* may be repreſſed, or at leaſt refrained from doing miſchief. Thirdly, How to raiſe *anger*, or appeaſe *anger* in another.

For the firſt: There is no other way but to Meditate and Ruminate well upon the effects of *Anger*, how it troubles man's Life. And the beſt time to do this is, to look back upon *Anger*, when the fit is throughly over. *Seneca* ſaith well; *That Anger is like Ruin, which breaks it ſelf upon that it falls.* The Scripture exhorteth us, *To poſſeſs our Souls in patience.* Whoſoever is out of *patience*, is out of Poſſeſſion of his *Soul.* Men muſt not turn Bees;

——*Animaſque in vulnere ponunt.*

Anger is certainly a kind of Baſeneſs; as it appears well in the Weakneſs of thoſe Subjects in whom it reigns, Children, Women, Old Folks, Sick Folks. Only men muſt beware, that they carry their *Anger* rather with Scorn, than with Fear: So that they may ſeem rather to be above the injury, than below it, which is a thing eaſily done, if a man will give Law to himſelf in it.

For the ſecond Point. The *Cauſes* and *Motives* of *Anger* are chiefly three: Firſt, to be too *ſenſible* of *hurt*: For no man is *Angry* that feels not

not himself hurt; and therefore tender and delicate Persons must needs be often *Angry*: They have so many things to trouble them, which more robust Natures have little sense of. The next is, the Apprehension and Construction of the Injury offered, to be in the circumstances thereof, full of *contempt*. For *contempt* is that which putteth an edg upon *Anger*, as much or more than the *hurt* it self: And therefore when men are ingenious in picking out circumstances of *contempt*, they do kindle their *Anger* much. Lastly, Opinion of the touch of a mans *Reputation* doth multiply and sharpen *Anger*: Wherein the remedy is, that a man should have, as *Gonsalvo* was wont to say, *Telam Honoris Crassiorem*. But in all refrainings of *Anger*, it is the best remedy to win Time, and to make a mans self believe that the Opportunity of his Revenge is not yet come; but that he foresees a time for it, and so to still himself in the mean time, and reserve it.

To contain *Anger* from *Mischief*, though it take hold of a man, there be two things, whereof you must have special Caution: The one, of extream *bitterness of Words*, especially if they be Aculeate and Proper; for *Communia Maledicta* are nothing so much. And again, That in *Anger* a man reveal no Secrets; for that makes him not fit for Society. The other, That you do not *peremptorily break off* in any business in a fit of *Anger*; but howsoever you *shew* bitterness, do not *act* any thing that is not revocable.

For

For *raiſing* and *appeaſing Anger* in another: It is done chiefly by *chuſing* of *Times*; when men are frowardeſt and worſt diſpoſed, to incenſe them. Again, by gathering (as was touched before) all that you can find out to aggravate the *contempt*; and the two *remedies* are by the *contraries*: The former, to take good Times, when firſt to relate to a man an *angry* buſineſs: For the firſt Impreſſion is much; and the other is, to ſever as much as may be the Conſtruction of the Injury from the Point of *contempt*; imputing it to Miſunderſtanding, Fear, Paſſion, or what you will.

LVIII.

Of Viciſſitude of Things.

SOLOMON ſaith, *There is no new thing upon the Earth.* So that as *Plato* had an imagination, *That all knowledge was but a remembrance*: So *Solomon* giveth his ſentence, *That all Novelty is but Oblivion*: Whereby you may ſee, That the River of *Lethe* runneth as well above ground as below. There is an abſtruſe Aſtrologer that ſaith, *If it were not for two things that are conſtant*, (The one is, *That the fixed Stars ever ſtand at like diſtance one from another, and never come nearer together, nor go further aſunder*; the other, *That the Diurnal Motion perpetually keepeth Time*) *no Individual would laſt one moment.* Certain it is, That the

the *matter* is in a perpetual Flux, and never at a ſtay. The great Winding-Sheets that bury all things in Oblivion are two; *Deluges* and *Earthquakes*. As for *Conflagrations* and great *Droughts*, they do not meerly diſpeople, but deſtroy. *Phaeton*'s Car went but a Day: And the *Three Years Drought*, in the time of *Elias*, was but particular, and left People alive. As for the great *burnings by Lightnings*, which are often in the *Weſt Indies*, they are but narrow. But in the other two Deſtructions, by *Deluge* and *Earthquake*, it is further to be noted, That the remnant of People which hap to be reſerved, are commonly ignorant and mountainous People, that can give no account of the time paſt; ſo that the Oblivion is all one, as if none had been left. If you conſider well of the People of the *Weſt-Indies*, it is very probable, that they are a newer or younger People, than the People of the old World. And it is much more likely, that the deſtruction that hath heretofore been there, was not by *Earthquakes*, (as the *Egyptian* Prieſt told *Solon*, concerning the Iſland of *Atlantis*, *That it was ſwallowed by an Earthquake*) but rather, it was Deſolated by a particular *Deluge*: For *Earthquakes* are ſeldom in thoſe Parts. But on the other ſide, they have ſuch *pouring Rivers*, as the *Rivers* of *Aſia*, and *Affrick*, and *Europe*, are but Brooks to them. Their *Andes* likewiſe, or Mountains, are far higher than thoſe with us; whereby it ſeems, that the Remnants of Generations of Men were in ſuch a particular *Deluge* ſaved. As for

for the obſervation that *Machiavel* hath, That the *Jealouſie* of *Sects* doth much extinguiſh the memory of things; traducing *Gregory* the Great, that he did what in him lay to extinguiſh all Heathen Antiquities. I do not find that thoſe Zeals do any great Effects, nor laſt long; as it appeared in the Succeſſion of *Sabinian*, who did revive the former Antiquities.

The *Viciſſitude* or *Mutations* in the *Superior Globe*, are no fit matter for this preſent Argument. It may be *Plato's Great Year*, if the World ſhould laſt ſo long, would have ſome effect; not in renewing the State of like Individuals, (for that in the Fume of thoſe, that conceive the Celeſtial Bodies have more accurate Influences upon theſe things below, than indeed they have) but in Groſs. *Comets* out of queſtion have likewiſe Power and Effect over the Groſs and Maſs of things: But they are rather gazed upon, and waited upon in their Journey, than wiſely obſerved in their Effects, eſpecially in their reſpective Effects; that is, What kind of *Comet* for Magnitude, Colour, Verſion of the Beams, placing in the Region of Heaven, or laſting, produceth what kind of effects.

There is a Toy which I have heard, and I would not have it given over, but waited upon a little. They ſay it is obſerved in the *Low-Countreys*, (I know not in what part) That every five and thirty Years, the ſame kind and ſuit of Years and Weathers comes about again, as great Froſts, great Wet, great Droughts, warm Winters,

Winters, Summers with little Heat, and the like; and they call it the *Prime*. It is a thing I do rather mention, becauſe computing backwards, I have found ſome concurrence.

But to leave theſe points of *Nature*, and come to *men*. The greateſt *Viciſſitude* of things amongſt *men*, is, The *Viciſſitude* of *Sects* and *Religions*: For thoſe Orbs rule in mens minds moſt. The *true Religion is built upon the Rock*, the reſt are toſt upon the Waves of Time. To ſpeak therefore of the *Cauſes* of new *Sects*, and to give ſome Counſel concerning them, as far as the weakneſs of Human Judgment can give ſtay to ſo great Revolutions.

When the *Religion* formerly received, is rent by Diſcords; and when the Holineſs of the Profeſſors of *Religion* is decayed, and full of Scandal, and withal the Times be Stupid, Ignorant, and Barbarous, you may doubt the ſpringing up of a *new Sect*, if then alſo there ſhould ariſe any extravagant and ſtrange Spirit to make himſelf Author thereof: All which points held, when *Mahomet* publiſhed his *Law*. If a *new Sect* have not two properties, fear it not; for it will not ſpread. The one is, The Supplanting or the Oppoſing of Authority eſtabliſhed: For nothing is more popular than that. The other is, The giving Licence to pleaſures and Voluptuous Life. For as for *Speculative Hereſies*, (ſuch as were in Ancient Times the *Arrians*, and now the *Arminians*) though they work mightily upon mens Wits, yet they do not produce any great alteration

tion in States, except it be by the help of Civil Occaſions. There be three manner of Plantations of *new Sects*, By the Power of *Signs* and *Miracles*, by the *Eloquence* and *Wiſdom* of *Speech* and *Perſwaſion*, and by the *Sword*; for *Martyrdoms*, I reckon them amongſt *Miracles*, becauſe they ſeem to exceed the ſtrength of Human Nature: And I may do the like of *Superlative* and *Admirable Holineſs* of *Life*. Surely there is no better way to ſtop the riſing of *new Sects* and *Schiſms*, than to reform abuſes, to compound the ſmaller differences, to proceed mildly, and not with Sanguinary perſecutions; and rather to take off the principal Authors by winning and advancing them, than to enrage them by violence and bitterneſs.

The *Changes* and *Viciſſitude* in *Wars* are many, but chiefly in three things: In the *Seats* or *Stages* of the *War*; in the *Weapons*, and in the *manner* of the *Conduct*. *Wars* in Ancient Time, ſeemed more to move from *Eaſt* to *Weſt*: For the *Perſians*, *Aſſyrians*, *Arabians*, *Tartars* (which are the Invaders) were all Eaſtern People. It is true, the *Gauls* were Weſtern, but we read but of two Incurſions of theirs, the one to *Gallo-Græcia*, the other to *Rome*. But *Eaſt* and *Weſt* have no certain Points of Heaven, and no more have the *Wars*, either from the *Eaſt* or *Weſt* any certainty of Obſervation. But *North* and *South* are fixed, and it hath ſeldom or never been ſeen, that the far Southern People have invaded the Northern, but contrariwiſe. Whereby it is ma-

niſeſt,

nifeſt, that the Northern *Tract* of the World is in nature the more Martial Religion; be it in reſpect of the Stars of that Hemiſphere, or of the great Continents that are upon the *North*, whereas the *South Part*, for ought that is known, is almoſt all Sea; or (which is moſt apparent) of the Cold of the *Northern Parts*, which is that, which without Aid of Diſcipline doth make the bodies hardeſt, and the Courages warmeſt.

Upon the *Breaking* and *Shivering* of a great *State* and *Empire*, you may be ſure to have *Wars*. For great Empires, while they ſtand, do enervate and deſtroy the forces of the Natives which they have ſubdued, reſting upon their own Protecting forces; and then when they fail alſo, all goes to ruine, and they become a Prey. So was it in the decay of the *Roman Empire*; and likewiſe in the *Empire* of *Almain*, after *Charles* the Great, every Bird taking a Feather, and were not unlike to befall to *Spain*, if it ſhould break. The great *Acceſſions* and *Unions* of *Kingdoms* do likewiſe ſtir up *Wars*. For when a State grows to an Over-power, it is like a great flood that will be ſure to over-flow. As it hath been ſeen in the States of *Rome*, *Turkie*, *Spain*, and others. Look when the World hath feweſt *barbarous People*, but ſuch as commonly will not marry or generate, except they know means to live; (as it is almoſt every where at this day, except *Tartary*) there is no danger of Inundations of People; but when there be *great Shoals* of *People*, which go on to populate without foreſeeing means of Life

and

and Sustentation, it is of necessity that once in an Age or two, they discharge a Portion of their People upon other Nations, which the ancient *Northern People* were wont to do by Lot, casting Lots what part should stay at home, and what should seek their Fortunes. When a *Warlike State* grows *soft* and *effeminate*, they may be sure of a *War*; for commonly such States are grown rich in the time of their Degenerating, and so the Prey inviteth, and their decay in valour encourageth a War.

As for the *Weapons*, it hardly falleth under Rule and Observation; yet we see even they have *Returns* and *Vicissitudes*. For certain it is, that *Ordnance* was known in the City of the *Oxydrakes* in *India*; and was that which the *Macedonians* called Thunder and Lightning, and Magick. And it was well known, that the use of *Ordnance* hath been in *China* above 2000 Years. The conditions of *Weapons*, and their improvement are; First, The fetching afar off; for that out-runs the danger, as it is seen in *Ordnance* and *Muskets*. Secondly, The strength of the Percussion, wherein likewise *Ordnance* do exceed all Arietations, and ancient Inventions. The Third is, The commodious use of them; as that they may serve in all Weathers, that the Carriage may be light and manageable, and the like.

For the *Conduct* of the *War*; at the first men rested extreamly upon *Number*, they did put the *War* likewise upon *main Force* and *Valour*, pointing days for pitched Fields, and so trying it out

upon an even match, and they were more ignorant in *Ranging* and *Arraying* their *Battles*. After they grew to rest upon *Number*, rather Competent than Vast; they grew to *advantages* of *Place*, *Cunning Diversions*, and the like; and they grew more skilful in the *ordering* of their *Battles*.

In the *Youth* of a *State Arms* do flourish; in the *middle Age* of a *State Learning*, and then both of them together for a time: In the *declining Age* of a *State*, *Mechanical Arts* and *Merchandize*. *Learning* hath his Infancy when it is but beginning, and almost Childish; then his Youth when it is Luxuriant and Juvenile; then his strength of Years, when it is solid and reduced; and lastly, his *Old Age*; when it waxed dry and exhaust. But it is not good to look too long upon these turning Wheels of *Vicissitude*, lest we become giddy. As for the *Philology* of them, that is but a Circle of Tales, and therefore not fit for this Writing.

LIX.

A Fragment of an Essay of Fame.

THE *Poets* make *Fame* a *Monster*. They describe her in part finely and elegantly; and in part gravely and sententiously. They say, look how many *Feathers* she hath, so many *Eyes* she hath underneath: so many *Tongues*; so many *Voices*; she pricks up so many *Ears*.

This

This is a *flourish*: There follow excellent *Parables*; as that she gathereth strength in going; that she goeth upon the ground, and yet hideth her head in the Clouds. That in the day-time she sitteth in a *Watch-Tower*, and flieth most by night: That she mingleth things done, with things not done: And that she is a terror to great *Cities*: But that which passeth all the rest is, they do recount that the *Earth*, *Mother* of the *Gyants*, that made War against *Jupiter*, and were by him destroyed, thereupon, in anger, brought forth *Fame*; for certain it is, that *Rebels* figured by the *Gyants* and *Seditious Fames*, and *Libels*, are but *Brothers* and *Sisters*; *Masculine* and *Feminine*. But now if a man can tame this *Monster*, and bring her to feed at the hand, and govern her, and with her flie other ravening fowl, and kill them, it is somewhat worth. But we are infected with the stile of the *Poets*. To speak now in a sad and serious manner: There is not in all the Politicks, a *Place* less handled, and more worthy to be handled, than this of *Fame*. We will therefore speak of these *points*. What are false *Fames*; and what are true *Fames*; and how they may be best discerned; how *Fames* may be sown and raised; how they may be spread and multiplied, and how they may be checked and laid dead: And other things concerning the *Nature* of *Fame*. *Fame* is of that force, as there is scarcely any great Action wherein it hath not a great part, especially in the *War*. *Mucianus* undid *Vitellius* by a *Fame* that he scat-

tered, that *Vitellius* had in purpose to remove the *Legions* of *Syria* into *Germany*: and the *Legions* of *Germany* into *Syria*: whereupon the *Legions* of *Syria* were infinitely inflamed. *Julius Cæsar* took *Pompey* unprovided, and layed asleep his industry and preparations, by a *Fame* that he cunningly gave out, how *Cæsars* own Soldiers loved him not; and being wearied with the Wars, and taken with the Ipoths of *Gaul*, would forsake him as soon as he came into *Italy*. *Livia* settled all things for the Succession of her Son *Tiberius*, by continual giving out, that her Husband *Augustus* was upon recovery and amendment. And it is an usual thing with *Bashaws*, to conceal the Death of the great *Turk* from the *Janizaries* and men of War, to save the Sacking of *Constantinople*, and other *Towns*, as their manner is. *Themistocles* made *Xerxes* King of *Persia* post apace out of *Grecia*, by giving out that the *Grecians* had a purpose to break his *Bridge* of Ships, which he had made athwart *Hellespont*. There be a thousand such like *Examples*; and the more they are, the less they need to be repeated; because a man meeteth with them every where: Therefore, let all wise *Governors* have as great a watch and care over *Fames*, as they have of the *Actions* and Designs themselves.

The rest was not finished.

LX.

A Civil Character of Julius Cæsar.

JULIUS CÆSAR was partaker at first of an exercised Fortune, which turned to his benefit: For it abated the haughtiness of his spirit, and whetted his Industry. He had a Mind, *turbulent* in his Desires and Affections; but in his judgment and understanding very *serene* and *placid*. And this appears by his easie deliverances of himself, both in his Transactions and in his Speech. For no man ever resolved more swiftly, or spake more perspicuously and plainly. There was nothing forced or difficult in his expressions. But in his will and appetite, he was of that Condition, that he never rested in those things he had gotten; but still thirsted and pursued after new; yet so, that he would not rush into new Affairs rashly, but settle and make an end of the former, before he attempted fresh Actions. So that he would put a seasonable period to all his Undertakings. And therefore, though he won many Battles in *Spain*, and weakned their *Forces* by degrees; yet he would not give over, nor despise the Reliques of the *Civil War* there, till he had seen all things composed. But then assoon as that was done, and the State setled, instantly he advanced in his Expedition against the *Parthians*.

He was, no doubt, of a very noble Mind; but yet such as aimed more at his *particular Advancement*, than at any *Merits* for the *Common Good*. For he referred all things to *Himself*; and was the true and perfect *Centre* of all his Actions. By which means, being so fast tied to his Ends, he was still prosperous, and prevailed in his Purposes; Insomuch, that neither *Country*, nor *Religion*, nor good *Turns* done him, nor *Kindred*, nor *Friendship* diverted his Appetite, nor bridled him from pursuing his own Ends. Neither was he much inclined to works of *Perpetuity*: For he established nothing for the future; He founded no sumptuous *Buildings*; He procured to be enacted no wholsome *Laws*, but still minded himself: And so his thoughts were confined within the Circle of his own Life. He sought indeed after *Fame* and *Reputation*, because he thought they might be profitable to his Designs: Otherwise, in his inward thoughts he propounded to himself rather *Absoluteness* of *Power*, than *Honour* and *Fame*. For as for *Honour* and *Fame*, he pursued not after them for themselves; but because they were the Instruments of *Power* and *Greatness*. And therefore he was carried on through a Natural Inclination, not by any Rules that he had learned, to effect the sole *Regiment*; and rather to *enjoy* the same than to *seem worthy* of it. And by this means he won much Reputation amongst the *People*, who are no valuers of true Worth: But amongst the *Nobility* and great Men, who were

were tender of their own Honours, it procured him no more than this, that he incurred the Brand of an *Ambitious* and *Daring Man*. Neither did they much err from the Truth who thought him so; for he was by Nature exceeding *bold*; and never did put on any shew of *Modesty*, except it were for some purposes. Yet notwithstanding, he so attempted his *Boldness*, that it neither impeached him of Rashness, nor was burthensome to men, nor rendred his Nature suspected, but was conceived to flow out of an innate Sincerity and freeness of Behaviour; and the *Nobility* of his *Birth*. And in all other things he passed, not for a *Crafty* and *Deceitful* Person, but for an *open-hearted* and *plain-dealing* man. And whereas he was indeed an *Arch-Politician*, that could counterfeit and dissemble sufficiently well; and was wholly compounded of *Fraud* and *Deceit*, so that there was nothing *sincere* in him, but all *artificial*; yet he covered, and disguised himself so, that no such Vices appeared to the Eyes of the World, but he was generally reputed to proceed plainly and uprightly with all men. Howbeit, he did not stoop to any petty and mean *Artifices*, as they do, which are ignorant in State-Employments, and depend not so much upon the strength of their own Wits, as upon the Counsels and Brains of others, to support their Authority; for he was skilled in the Turnings of all Human Affairs, and transacted all Matters, especially those of high Consequence by himself, and not by others.

He was singularly skilful to avoid *Envy*; and found it not impertinent to his Ends, to decline that, though it were with some diminution of his *Dignity*. For aiming at a *Real Power*, he was content to pass by all vain Pomp and outward shews of Power throughout his whole Life; Till at the last, whether high-flown, with the continual *Exercise* of *Power*, or corrupted with *Flatteries*, he affected the *Ensigns* of *Power*, (the *Stile* and *Diadem* of a *King*,) which was the Bait that wrought his Overthrow.

This is true, that he harboured the thoughts of a *Kingdom* from his very youth: And hereunto the *Example* of *Sylla*, and the *Kindred* of *Marius*, and his *Emulation* of *Pompey*, and the *Corruption* and *Ambition* of the *Times*, did prick him forward: But then he paved his way to a *Kingdom*, after a wonderful and strange manner. As first, by a *Popular* and *Seditious* Power; afterwards by a *Military Power*, and that of a *General in War*. For there was required to effect his Ends; First, That he should break the *Power* and *Authority* of the *Senate*; which, as long as it stood firm, was adverse, and an hindrance, that no Man could climb to *Sovereignty* and *Imperial Command*. Then the *Power* of *Crassus* and *Pompey* was to be subduced and quelled, which could not be done otherwise, than by *Arms*. And therefore (as the most *Cunning Contriver* of his own *Fortune*) he laid his first Foundation by *Bribes*; By corrupting the *Courts* of *Justice*, by renewing the *memory* of *Caius Marius*, and his

his party; For most of the *Senators* and *Nobility* were of *Sylla's Faction*: by the *Law* of *distributing* the *Fields* amongst the *Common People*: by the *Sedition* of the *Tribunes*, where he was the *Author*: by the *madness* and *fury* of *Catline*, and the *Conspirators*, unto which Action he secretly blew the *Coals*: By the *Banishment* of *Cicero*, which was the greatest Blow, to the *authority* of the *Senate*, as might be; and several other the like *Arts*: But most of all by the *Confunction* of *Crassus*, and *Pompey*, both betwixt themselves, and with him; which was the thing that finished the work.

Having accomplisht this part, he betook himself to the other; which was to *make use* of, and to *enjoy* his *power*. For being made *Proconsul of France* for five years; and afterwards continuing it for five years more; he furnished himself with *Arms* and *Legions*, and the power of a Warlike and Opulent *Province*; as was formidable to *Italy*.

Neither was he ignorant, that after he had strengthened himself with *Arms*, and a *Military Power*, neither *Crassus* nor *Pompey* could ever be able to bear up against him; whereof the one trusted to his great Riches, the other to his Fame and Reputation; the one decayed through Age, the other in Power and Authority: And neither of them were grounded upon true and lasting Foundations. And the rather, for that he had obliged all the *Senators* and *Magistrates*: And in a word, all those that had any power in the *Com-*

mon-

wealth, so firmly to himself, with private benefits, that he was fearless of any Combination or Opposition against his Designs, till he had openly invaded the *Imperial Power.*

Which things, though he always bare in his Mind, and at the last acted it, yet he did not lay down his former person; but coloured things so, that what with the reasonableness of his Demands, what with his pretences of Peace, and what with the moderate use of his Success, he turned all the *Envy* of the *Adverse Party*, and forced to take up *Arms* upon necessity for his own preservation and safety. But the falseness of the pretence manifestly appeared; inasmuch as soon after having obtained the *Regal Power*, all *Civil War* being appeased, and all his *Rivals* and *Opposites*, which might put him to any fear, being removed out of the way by the stroke of Death; notwithstanding he never thought of *resigning* the *Republick*; no, nor ever made any shew or offer of *resigning* the same. Which shewed plainly, that his ambition of being a *King* was fetled in him, and remained with him unto his last breath. For he did not lay hold upon occasions, as they happened, but moulded and formed the occasions, as himself pleased.

His chief *Abilities* consisted in *Martial Knowledg*; in which he so excelled, that he could not only *lead* an Army, but *mould* an Army to his own liking. For he was not more skilful in managing Affairs, than in *winning* of Hearts. Neither did he affect this by any ordinary Discipline,

pline, as by inuring them to fulfil all his commands; or by striking a shame into them to disobey, or by carrying a severe Hand over them: But by such a way as did wonderfully stir up an alacrity and chearfulness in them: and did in a sort assure him of the Victory aforehand, and which did oblige the Soldier to him, more than was fit for a *Free Estate*. Now whereas he was versed in all kinds of *Martial Knowledge*, and joyned *Civil Arts* with the *Arts* of *War*; nothing came so suddenly, or so unlookt for upon him, for which he had not a remedy at hand: And nothing was so averse, but that he could pick something for his Turn and Benefit out of it.

He stood sufficiently upon his *State* and *Greatness*. For in great Battels, he would sit at home in the *Head Quarter*, and manage all Things by *Messages*, which wrought him a double benefit. First, that it secured his *Person* more, and exposed him the less to *Danger*. Secondly, that if at any time his *Army* was worsted, he could put new spirit into them with his own presence, and the *Addition* of *fresh Forces*, and turn the *Fortune* of the *Day*. In the conducting of his *Wars*, he would not only follow former *Precedents*, but he was able to devise and pursue new *Stratagems*, according as the accidents and occasions required.

He was constant, and singularly kind, and indulgent in his *Friendships* contracted. Notwithstanding, he made choice of such Friends,

as

as a Man might easily see, that he chose them rather to be *Instruments* to his *Ends*, than for any *Good will* towards them. And whereas, by Nature, and out of a firm Resolution, he adhered to this Principle; not to be eminent amongst *Great* and *deserving* Men; but to be chief amongst *Inferiours* and *Vassals*: he chose only mean and active Men, and such as to whom himself might be all in all. And hereupon grew that saying; *So let Cæsar live, though I die*: and other Speeches of that kind. As for the *Nobles* and those that were his *Peers*, he contracted Friendship with such of them as might be useful to him, and admitted none to his *Cabinet Counsel*, but those that had their Fortunes wholly depending upon him.

He was moderately furnished with good *Literature*, and the *Arts*; But in such sort as he applied his skill therein to *Civil Policy*. For he was well read in *History*: and was expert in *Rhetorick*, and the *Art of Speaking*. And because he attributed much to his good *Stars*, he would pretend more than an ordinary Knowledge in *Astronomy*. As for *Eloquence*, and a prompt *Elocution*, that was *Natural* to him, and *pure*.

He was dissolute, and propense to *Voluptuousness*, and *Pleasures*; which served well at first for a Cover to his *Ambition*. For no man would imagine, that a man so loosely given could harbour any Ambitious and Vast Thoughts in his Heart. Notwithstanding, he so governed his *Plea-*

Pleasures, that they were no hindrance, either to his profit, or to his business: And they did rather whet, than dull the vigour of his Mind. He was *Temperate* at his *Meals*; *free from Nice*ness and *Curiosity* in his *Lusts*; pleasant and *Magnificent* at *publick Interludes*.

Thus being accomplished, the same thing was the Means of his *down-fall* at last, which in the beginnings was a step to his *Rise*, I mean his *Affectation* of *Popularity*: For nothing is more *popular*, than to *forgive our Enemies*. Through which, either *Vertue* or *Cunning*, he lost his Life.

LXI.

A Civil Character of Augustus Cæsar.

AUGUSTUS CÆSAR (if ever any *Mortal Man*) was endued with a *greatness of Mind*, *undisturbed with Passions*, *clear* and well *ordered*; which is evidenced by the High Atchievements which he performed in his early youth. For those persons which are of a turbulent Nature or Appetite, do commonly pass their youth in many *Errors*; and about their middle, and then, and not before, they shew forth their *Perfections*; but those that are of a sedate and calm Nature, may be ripe for great and glorious Actions in their youth. And whereas the *Faculties* of the *Mind*, no less than the *Parts* and

Mem-

Members of the *Body*, do consist and flourish in a good temper of *Health*, and *Beauty*, and *Strength*. So he was in the *strength* of the *Mind*, inferior to his Uncle *Julius*; but in the *Health* and *Beauty* of the *Mind*, superior. For *Julius* being of an unquiet and uncompoled Spirit, (as those who are troubled with the *Falling-Sickness* for the most part are,) notwithstanding he carried on his own ends with much Moderation and Discretion; but he did not order his ends well, propounding to himself, vast and high Designs, above the Reach of a *Mortal Man*. But *Augustus*, as a Man sober, and mindful of his *Mortality*, seemed to propound no other ends to himself, than such as were orderly and well weighed, and governed by *Reason*. For first he was desirous indeed to have the *Rule* and *Principality* in his hands; then he sought to appear worthy of that *Power* which he should acquire: Next, to enjoy an *High Place*, he accounted but a *Transitory Thing*: Lastly, He endeavoured to do such *Actions*, as might continue his *memory*, and leave an *Impression* of his *good Government* to *After Ages*. And therefore, in the *beginning* of his *Age*, he affected *Power*; in the *middle* of his *Age*, *Honour* and *Dignity*; in the *decline* of his *years*, *Ease* and *Pleasure*; and in the *end* of his *Life*, he was wholly bent to *Memory* and *Posterity*.

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FINIS.

OF THE COLOURS OF GOOD & EVIL:

A Fragment.

OF THE
COLOURS
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A Fragment.

IN Deliberations, the Point is, what is Good, and what is Evil, and of Good what is greater, and of Evil what is leſs. For that the Perſuader's Labour is to make things appear Good or Evil, and that in an higher or lower Degree; which as it may be performed by true and ſolid Reaſons, ſo it may be repreſented alſo by Colours, Popularities, and Circumſtances, which are of ſuch force, as they ſway the ordinary Judgment either of a weak Man, or of a wiſe Man, not fully and conſiderately attending and pondering the matter. Beſides their power to alter the nature of the Subject in appearance, and ſo to lead to Error, they are of no leſs uſe to quicken and ſtrengthen the Opinions and Perſuaſions which are true: for Reaſons plainly delivered, and always after one manner, eſpecially with Fine and Faſtidious Minds, enter but heavily and dully; whereas if they be varied, and have more Life and Vigour put into them by theſe Forms and Inſinuati-

ons, they cause a stronger Apprehension, and many times suddenly win the mind to a Resolution. Lastly, To make a true

Capita Sectionum, quæ in *Boni Malique* Colorum Tabula continentur.

1. *QUI cæteræ Partes, vel Sectæ, secundas unanimiter deferunt, cum Stoicæ principatum sibi vindicent, Melius reliquis videtur. Nam primas quæque ex zelo videtur sumere, secundas autem ex veritate & merito tribuere.*

2. *Cujus excellentia, vel exuperantia melior; id toto genere Melius.*

3. *Quod ad Veritatem refertur, Majus est, quam quod ad Opinionem. Modus autem & probatio ejus, quod ad Opinionem pervenit, hæc est:* Quod quis, si cleni putaret forte, facturus non esset.

4. *Quod rem integram servat, Bonum: Quod sine receptu est, Malum; Nam se recipere non posse, impotentiæ genus est: potentia autem Bonum.*

5. *Quod ex pluribus constat, & divisibilibus, est Majus, quam quod ex paucioribus, & Majis Unum: Nam omnia, per partes considerata, majora videntur; quare & pluralitas partium Magnitudinem præ se fert.*

Fortius autem operatur pluralitas partium, si Ordo absit: Nam inducit similitudinem Infiniti, & impedit comprehensionem.

6. *Cujus privatio bona, Malum; Cujus privatio mala, Bonum.*

7. *Quod Bono vicinum, Bonum: Quod Bono remotum, Malum.*

8. *Quod quis culpa sua contraxit, Majus Malum: Quod ab externis imponitur, Minus Malum.*

9. *Quod opera & virtute nostra partum est, Majus Bonum: Quod ab alieno beneficio, vel ab indulgentia Fortunæ, delatum est, Minus Bonum.*

10. *Gradus Privationis major videtur quam gradus Diminutionis; & rursus gradus Inceptionis major videtur, quam gradus Incrementi.*

11. *Quod laudant homines & celebrant, bonum; quod vituperant & reprehendunt, malum.*

12. *Quod etiam ab inimicis laudatur, magnum Bonum; quod vero ab amicis reprehenditur, magnum Malum.*

The Heads of the Sections of the Table of the Colours of Good and Evil, rendred into English, are as follow.

1. *SINCE all Parties, or Sects, challenge the prehemínence of the First Place to themselves; that, to which all the rest with one consent give the Second Place, seems to be better than the other's. For every one seems to take the First Place out of Zeal to it self; but to give the Second where it is really due.*

2. *That kind is altogether best, whose Excellence, or Prehemínence is best.*

3. *That, which hath a relation to* Truth, *is* Greater *than that which refers it* Opinion. *But the Measure, and Tryal of that, which belongs to* Opinion, *is this:* It is that which a Man would not do, if he thought it would not be known.

4. *That, which keeps a matter safe and entire, is* Good; *but what is destitute and unprovided of Retreat is* Bad. *For where-*

as

as all Ability of Acting is Good, not to be able to withdraw ones self, is a kind of Impotency.

5. *That which consists of more Parts, and those Divisible, is* Greater, *and more one, than what is made up of fewer: But all things when they are looked upon* Piecemeal, *seem* Greater; *when also a Plurality of Parts make a shew of a Bulk considerable: Which a Plurality of Parts effects more strongly, if they be in no certain* Order; *for it then resembles an* Infinity, *and hinders the comprehending of them.*

6. *That, whose Privation* (or, *the Want of which*) *is* Good, *is in it self* Evil: *that, whose Privation* (or *the Want whereof*) *is an* Evil, *is in it self* Good.

7. *What is near to Good,* is Good; *what is at distance from Good,* is Evil.

8. *That, which a Man hath procured by his own Default, is a* Greater Mischief (or Evil:) *that, which is layed on him by others, is a* Lesser Evil.

9. *That, which is gotten by our own Pains and Industry, is a* greater Good: *that, which comes by another Man's Courtesie, or the Indulgence of Fortune, is a* lesser Good.

10. *The*

10. *The Degree of* Privation *ſeems Greater than the Degree of Diminution: And again, the Degree of* Inception *(or Beginning) ſeems greater than the Degree of* Increaſe.

11. *That, which men commend and celebrate, is good; that, which they diſpraiſe and reprehend, is evil.*

12. *That, which draws commendation even from Enemies, is a great Good; but that, which is reprehended even by Friends, is a great Evil.*

10. The Degree of Privation leans
Greater than the Degree of Priviation:
And again, the Degree of Inception (or
Beginning) leans Greater than the Degree
of Increase.

11. That, which were commend and co-
lebrate, is good; that, which the dispra-
and reprehend, is evil.

12. That, which drawes commendation o-
ver from Enemies, is a great Good; But
that, which is reprehended even by Friends,
is great Evil.

A Table of the *Colours* (or *Appearances*) of *Good* and *Evil*; and their *Degrees*, as *Places* of *Persuasion*, and *Dissuasion*, and their several *Fallaxes*, and the *Elenchs* of them.

1. *CUI cætera Partes, vel Secta, secundas unanimiter deferunt, cum singula principatum sibi vindicent, Mellor reliquis videtur. Nam primas quaque ex zelo videtur sumere; secundas autem ex vero & merito tribuere.* That is,

Since all Parties, or Sects, challenge the Preheminence of the *first* Place to themselves; that, to which all the rest with one consent give the *second* Place, seems to be better than the others. For every one seems to take to *first* Place out of zeal to it self, but to give the *second* where it is really due.

SO *Cicero* went about to prove the Sect of *Academicks*, which suspended all *Asseveration*, for to be the *best*. *For, saith he, ask a* Stoick, *which* Philosophy *is true, he will prefer his own: then ask him, which approacheth (next) the Truth, he will confess, the* Academicks. *So deal with the* Epicure, *that will scant endure the* Stoick

to be in sight of him; so soon as he hath placed himself, he will place the Academicks next him.

So, if a Prince took divers Competitors to a place, and examined them severally, which Ex themselves they would chiefly commend; it were like the *ablest* man should have the most *second* Voices.

The *Fallax* of this *Colour* happeneth oft in respect of *Envy*; for men are accustomed, after *themselves*, and their own *fashion*, to incline unto them which are softest, and are *least in their way*, in despight and derogation of them, that hold them *hardest* to it. So that this Colour of *Meliority* and *Preheminence* is a sign of Enervation and Weakness.

2. *Cujus excellentia, vel exuperantia Melior, in toto genere Melius.* That is,

That kind is altogether *best*, whose Excellence, or Preheminence is best.

APPERTAINING to this are the Forms: *Let us not wander in generalities. Let us compare particular with particular*, &c. This *apparance*, though it seem of strength, and rather *Logical* than *Rhetorical*, yet is very oft a *Fallax*.

Sometimes, because some things are in kind very *casual*; which if they escape, prove *excellent*; so that the *kind* is inferior, because it is so

subject

subject to peril; but that, which is excellent, being proved, is superior. As the Blossom of *March*, and the Blossom of *May*, whereof the *French* Verse goeth:

Burgeon de Mars, enfans de Paris,
Si un eschape, bien vaut dix.

So that the Blossom of *May* is generally better than the Blossom of *March*; and yet the best Blossom of *March* is better than the best Blossom of *May*.

Sometimes, because the nature of some *kinds* is to be more *equal*, and more *indifferent*, and not to have very distant Degrees; as hath been noted in the *warmer Climates*, the people are *generally* more wise, but in the *Northern Climate*, the Wits of *chief* are greater. So in many Armies, if the matter should be tryed by *Duel* between two *Champions*, the Victory should go on the *one* side; and yet, if it were tryed by the *gross*, it would go on the *other* side. For *Excellencies* go as it were by *chance*, but *kinds* go by a *more certain Nature* as by *Discipline* in War.

Lastly, Many *kinds* have much *refuse*, which countervail that, which they have *excellent*; and therefore generally *Metal* is more precious than *Stone*, and yet a *Diamond* is more precious than Gold.

3. Quod

3. *Quod ad Veritatem refertur, Major est, quam quod ad Opinionem. Modus autem & probatio ejus, quod ad Opinionem pertinet, hoc est: Quod quis, si clam putaret fore, facturus non esset.* That is,

That which hath relation to *Truth*, is *greater* than that which refers to *Opinion*. But the Measure, and Tryal of that, which belongs to *Opinion*, is this: *It is that which a man would not do, if he thought it would not be known.*

SO the *Epicures* say to the *Stoicks*, *Felicity* placed in *Vertue*; that it is like the felicity of a *Player*, who, if he were left of his *Auditors*, and their *Applause*, would streight be out of Heart and Countenance; and therefore they call *Vertue*, *bonum theatrale*; that is, a *Stage good*. But of *Riches* the *Poet* saith,

Populus me sibilat,
At mihi plaudo: i. e.

My People hiss *abroad*,
But I my self applaud.

And of *Pleasure*,

——*Grata sub imo*
Gaudia corde premens, vultu simulato Pudorem: i. e.

"Your welcome Joys *within* let stifled lie,
"But counterfeit *abroad* a Modesty.

The

The *Fallax* of this *Colour* is somewhat subtil, though the Answer to the Example be ready: For *Vertue* is not chosen *propter vanam populi laudem*, for the applause of *People*; but contrariwise, *Maximè hominum est ipsum reverere*, a Man ought to stand most in awe of himself; so as a *Vertuous* Man will be Vertuous *in solitudine*, in a *Desart*, and not only *in theatro*, upon the *Stage*: though percase it will be more strong by *Glory* and *Fame*, as an *Heat*, which is doubled by *Reflection*. But that denieth the *Supposition*, it doth not reprehend the *Fallax*, whereof the *Reprehension* is a Law, that *Vertue* (such as is joyned with Labour and Conflict) would not be chosen, but for *Fame* and *Opinion*; yet it followeth not, that the *chief Motive* of the Election should not be *real*, and for *it self*; for *Fame* may be only *causa impulsiva*, the *impelling* or *urging* Cause, and not *causa constituens*, or *efficiens*, the *constituting*, or *efficient* Cause. As if there were two *Horses*, and the one would do better *without the Spur* than the other: but again, the other *with the Spur* would far exceed the doing of the former, giving him the *Spur* also; yet the latter will be judged to be the *better Horse*: and the *Form*, as to say, *Tush, the Life of this Horse is but in the Spur*, will not serve as to a *wise* Judgment: for, since the *ordinary Ingredient* of Horsmanship is the *Spur*, and that it is no matter of *Impediment* or *Burthen*, the *Horse* is not to be accounted the less of, which will not do well *without the Spur*, but the other is to be reckoned rather a *Delicacy*, than a *Vertue*. So

Glory and *Honour* are the *Spurs* to *Vertue*: and although *Vertue* would *languish* without them, yet since they be always at hand to attend *Vertue*, Vertue is not said to be the less chosen *for it self*, because it needed the *Spur* of *Fame* and *Reputation*. And therefore that Position, *Nota ejus rei, quod propter Opinionem, & non propter veritatem eligitur, hæc est; Quod quis, si clam putaret fore, facturus non esset*; (*That is, That* the Mark of a Thing chosen for Opinion, and not for Truth-sake; is this, That one would not do it, if he thought it would not be known,) is reprehended.

4. *Quod rem integram servat, Bonum: quod sine receptu est, Malum. Nam se recipere non posse, impotentiæ genus est: potentia autem Bonum*: That is,

That, which keeps a matter safe and entire, is *Good*: but what is destitute, and unprovided of a retreat, is *bad*. For, whereas all Ability of Acting is Good, not to be able to withdraw ones self, is a kind of Impotency.

HEREOF *Æsop* framed the *Fable* of the *two Frogs*, that consulted together in the time of *drought*, (when many *Plashes* that they had repaired to were *dry*,) what was to be done: and the *one* propounded to go down into a deep *Well*, because it was like the *Water* would not *fail* there; but the *other* answered, *Yea, but if it do fail, how shall we get up again?* And the

Reason

Reason is, that *Humane Actions* are so *uncertain*, and subject to *perils*, as that seemeth the *best* course, which had most *passages* out of it. Appertaining to this Persuasion, the *Forms* are, *You shall engage your self*: on the other side, *Tantum, quantum voles, sumes ex foenore*, i. e. Take what Lot you will; *or, you shall keep the matter in your own Hand*. The *reprehension* of it is, that *preceding and resolving in all actions is necessary*. For, as he saith well, *Not to resolve, is to resolve*; and many times it breeds as many *necessities*, and engageth as far in some other sort, as to resolve. So it is but the *covetous* Man's Disease translated in *power*; for the *covetous* Man will *enjoy nothing*, because he will have his *full store*, and *possibility* to enjoy the more; so, by *this* Reason, a Man should *execute nothing*, because he should be still *indifferent*, and *at liberty* to execute any thing. Besides *Necessity* and this same *Jacta est alea*, or, once having *cast the Dice*, hath many times an advantage; because it awaketh the *powers of* the mind, and strengtheneth endeavour, (*Cæteris pares, necessitate certè superiores, istis*:) which are able to deal with any others, but *master* these upon *necessity*.

Quod ex pluribus constat, & divisibilibus, est majus, quam quod ex paucioribus, & magis Unum: nam omnia, per partes considerata, majora videntur; quare & pluralitas partium Magnitudinem pro se fert. Fortius autem operatur Pluralitas partium, si Ordo ei sit: nam inducit similitudinem Infinitatis, & impedit comprehensionem; That is,

 That,

That, which consists of more parts, and those *Divisible*, is *greater*, and *more One*, than what is made up of *fewer*; for all things, when they are looked upon *piece-meal*, seem *greater*; whence also a plurality of Parts make shew of a Bulk considerable. Which a Plurality of Parts effects more strongly, if they be in no certain *Order*; for it then resembles an *Infinity*, and hinders the comprehending of them.

THIS *Colour* seemeth palpable; for it is not *Plurality* of *Parts*, without *Majority* of *Parts*, that maketh the *total* greater; yet nevertheless, it often carries the *mind* away; yea, it deceiveth the *sense*; as it seemeth to the Eye a shorter distance of *way*, if it be all *dead* and *continued*, than if it have *Trees*, or *Buildings*, or any other *marks*, whereby the *Eye* may divide it. So when a *great monied* man hath divided his *Clothes*, and *Coyns*, and *Bags*, he seemeth to himself *richer* than he was. And therefore the way to *avoid* *fie* any thing is to *break* it, and to make *Anatomy* of it in *several parts*, and to examine it according to *several scircumstances*. And this maketh the greater shew, if it be done *without Order*; for *confusion* maketh things *muster* more. And besides, what is set down by *Order* and *Division*, doth demonstrate, that nothing is *left out* or *omitted*; but all is there: whereas, if it be *without Order*, both the mind *comprehendeth* less that which is set down, and besides it leaveth a

suspicion,

suspicion, as if *more* might be *said* than is *expressed*.

This *Colour* deceiveth, if the mind of him that is to be perswaded, do of it self *overconceive* a *prejudice* of the *greatness* of any thing; for then the *breaking* of it will make it seem *less*, because it makes it to appear more according to the *Truth*. And therefore, if a Man be in *Sickness* or Pain, the time will seem longer *without a Clock*, or *Hourglass*, than *with* it: for the mind doth *value every moment*; and then the *Hour* doth rather *sum up* the *moments* than *divide* the *Day*. So in a *dead Plain* the *way* seemeth the *longer*, because the *Eye* hath pre-conceived it *shorter*, than the truth: and the *frustrating* of that maketh it seem *longer* than the truth. Therefore, if any Man have an *over-great Opinion* of any thing, then another think, by *breaking* it into *several Considerations*, he shall make it seem *greater* to him, he will be *deceived*. And therefore, in such *Cases*, it is not safe to *divide*, but to *extol* the *Entire* still *in general*.

Another *Case*, wherein this *Colour* deceiveth, is, when the matter *broken*, or *divided*, is not *comprehended* by the sense, or *made at once* in respect of the *distracting* or *scattering* of it: and being *entire*, and not *divided*, is *comprehended*. As an *hundred Pounds* in Heaps of *five Pounds* will shew *more* than in one gross Heap: so as the Heaps be all upon *one Table* to be seen at once, otherwise not. As *Flowers*, growing scattered in *divers* Beds, will shew *more*, than if they did grow in *one* Bed:

so

so as all those *Beds* be within a *Plot*, that they lie object to view *at once*; otherwise not. And therefore *men*, whose Living lyeth *together in one Shire*, are commonly counted *greater-landed* than those, whose Livings are *dispersed*, though it be *more*; because of the *notice* and *comprehension*.

A third *Case*, wherein this *Colour* deceiveth; which is not so properly a *Case* or *Reprehension*, as it is a *counter Colour*, being in effect as large as the *Colour* it self is. *Omnis compositio indigentiæ alicujus videtur esse particeps.* That every Composition seems to partake of a certain want; because, if *one* thing would serve the turn, it were ever *best*; but it is the *Defect* and *Imperfection* of things that hath brought in that help to *piece* them up; as it is said,

* Luke 10. 41, 42. † *Martha, Martha, attendis de plurima, unum sufficit*; that is, Martha, Martha, thou art troubled about many things; one thing is sufficient. So likewise hereupon *Æsop* framed the *Fable* of the *Fox* and the *Cat*: wherein the *Fox* bragged, what a *number* of *shifts* and *devices* he had, to get from the *Hounds*; and the *Cat* said, He had but *one*, which was to *climb a Tree*; which in proof was *better worth* than all the rest; whereof the *Proverb* grew,

* *Multa novit Vulpes, sed Felis unum magnum.*

Reynard the Hounds to scape had shifts not small,
Grimalkin only one, as good as all.

And

And in the *Moral* of this *Fable*, it comes likewise to pass, That *a good sure Friend is a better help at a pinch, than all the Stratagems and Policies of man's own wit.* So it falleth out to be a *common Error* in *Negotiating*; whereas Men have *many* Reasons to *induce* or *perswade*, they strive commonly to utter, and use them *all at once*, which weakeneth them. For it argueth, as was said, a *Feebleness* in every of the *Reasons* by it self, as if one did not trust to *any* of them, but fled *from one to another*, helping himself only with *that*.

Et quæ non prosunt singula, multa juvant.

And what help'd not *alone* before,
Doth help full well, when joyn'd with *more*.

Indeed, in a *set Speech* in an *Assembly*, it is expected, a Man should use *all* his *Reasons* in the *Case* he handleth: but in *private perswasions* it is always a *great Error*.

A fourth *Case*, wherein this *Colour* may be *reprehended* is in respect of that same *vis unita fortior*, the acknowledged *strength* of an *united Power*; according to the *Tale* of the *FRENCH King*, who, when the *Emperor's Embassador* had recited his *Master's Style* at large, which consisteth of *many Countries*, and *Dominions*, the *FRENCH KING* willed his *Chancellor*, or other *Minister*, to repeat over *FRANCE* as many times as the other had recited the several *Dominions*; intending, it was *equivalent*

with them *all*, and more *compatted* and *united*. There is also appertaining to this *Colour* another *Point*, why *breaking* of a thing doth help it; not by way of adding a shew of *Magnitude* unto it, but a note of *Excellency* and *Rarity*: whereof the *Forms* are, *Where you shall find such a Concurrence? Great, but not compleat*: for it seems a less work of *Nature* or *Fortune*, to make any thing in his kind *greater than ordinary*, than to make a *strange* Composition. Yet, if it be *narrowly* considered, this *Colour* will be *reprehended*, or *excountred*, by imputing to *all Excellencies* in *Compositions* a kind of *Poverty*, or (at least) a *Casualty*, or *Jeopardy*: for from that, which is excellent in *greatness*, somewhat may be *taken*, or there may be a *decay*, and yet *sufficiently* left; but from that which hath his price in *composition*, if you *take away* any thing, or any part do *fail*, all is *Disgrace*.

6. *Cujus Privatio bona, Malum: cujus Privatio mala, Bonum.* That is,

That, whose Privation (*or*, the want of which) is Good, is in it self *Evil*: that whose Privation (*or*, the want thereof) is an Evil, is in it self *Good*.

THE *Forms* to make it conceived, that that was *Evil*, which is changed for the *better*, are, *He that is in Hell, thinks there is no Heaven. Satis quercus; Acorns were good, till Bread was found*,

found, &c. And on the other side, the *form* to make it conceived, that that was *good*, which was changed for the *worse*, are; *Bona magis carendo quam fruendo sentimus*: That is, we understand the Goodness of things more by wanting, than enjoying them. *Bona à tergo formosissima*: i. e. *Good things never appear in their full Beauty, till they turn their back, and be going away*, &c.

The *Reprobation* of this *Colour* is, That the *Good* or *Evil* which is *removed*, may be esteemed *Good*, or *Evil comparatively*; and not *positively* or *simply*. So that if the *Privation* be *Good*, it follows not, that the *former* condition was *Evil*, but *less Good*: For the *Flower* or *Blossom* is a *positive* Good; although the *remove* of it, to give place to the *Fruit*, be a *comparative* Good. So in the *Tale* of *Æsop*, when the *old fainting* man in the *heat* of the day cast down his *Burthen*, and called for *Death*; and when *Death* came to know his *will* with him, said, *It was for nothing, but to help him up with his Burthen again*: It doth not follow, that because *Death*, which was the *privation* of the *Burthen*, was *ill*, therefore the *Burthen* was *good*. And in this part the ordinary *Form* of *Malum Necessarium*, a necessary Evil, aptly reprehended this *Colour*: For *privatio mali necessarii mali*, the privation of a necessary Evil is Evil; and yet that doth not convert the *Nature* of the *necessary Evil*, but it is *Evil*.

Again it cometh sometimes to pass, that there is an *equality* in the change of *privation*, and (as it were) a *Dilemma boni*, of the *good*;

or,

* *Corruptio unius est generatio alterius.*	or, *Dilemma mali*, of the *Evil*; so that the * *corruption* of *one Good* is a *Generation* of the *other*.

Sorti pater aequus utrique est:

Both *Chances* the same *equal Parent* have:

And contrarily, the *remedy* of the *one Evil*, is the *occasion* and *commencement* of *another*; as in *Scylla* and *Charybdis*.

7. *Quod Bono vicinum, Bonum: quod à Bono remotum, Malum.* That is,

What is near to Good, is *Good*: What is at distance from Good, is *Evil*.

SUCH is the *Nature* of things, that things *contrary*, and *distant* in *nature* and *quality*; and also *severed* and *disjoyned* in *Place*; and things *like*, and *consenting* in *quality*, are *placed*, and (as it were) *quartered together*: For partly, in regard of the *Nature*, to *spread*, *multiply*, and *infect* in similitude; and partly, in regard of the *Nature*, to *break*, *expel*, and *alter* that which is *disagreeable* and *contrary*, most things do either *associate*, and *draw near* to themselves the *like*, or (at least) *assimilate* to themselves that which *approacheth near* them, and do also *drive away*, *chase*, and *exterminate* their *contraries*. And that is the *reason* commonly yielded, why the *middle Region* of

of the *Air* should be *coldest*; because the *Sun* and *Stars* are either *hot* by *direct Beams*, or by *reflection*. The *direct Beams* heat the *upper Region*; the *reflected Beams* from the *Earth* and *Seas*, heat the *lower Region*. That which is in the *middest*, being farther distant in *place* from these *two Regions* of *heat*, is most distant in *Nature*, that is *coldest*, which is that they term *cold*, or *hot*, per * *Antiperistasin*, that is, *environing* by *contraries*: which was pleasantly taken hold of by him, who said, that an honest man *in these days must needs be* more honest *than in Ages heretofore*, propter Antiperistasin, *because the shutting of him in the midst of Contraries must needs make the* honester *stronger, and more compact in it self.*

* *Antiperistasis* is a *Philosophical* Term, signifying a *repulsion on every part, whereby either Heat or Cold is made more strong in it self, by the restraining of the contrary.*

The *Reprehension* of this *Colour* is:

First, Many things of *Amplitude* in their kind do (as it were) *engross* to themselves *all*, and leave that which is *next* them most *destitute*. As the *Shoots*, or *Under-Wood*, that grow near a *great* and *spread Tree*, is the *most pined* and *shrubby* Wood of the Field; because the *great Tree* doth *deprive* and *deceive* them of the *sap* and *nourishment*; so be saith well, *Divitis servi maxime Servi*, That rich mens Servants are the greatest Slaves: And the *Comparison* was pleasant of him, that compared *Courtiers* attendant in the *Courts of Princes*, without great *Place* or *Office*,

to

to *Fasting-days*; which were next the *Holy-days*, but otherwise were the *leanest* days in all the Week.

Another *Reprehension* is, that things of *Greatness* and *Predominancy*, though they do not *extinguish* the things adjoyning in *substances*, yet they *drown them*, and *obscure* them in *shew* and *appearance*. And therefore the *Astronomers* say, that, whereas in all other Planets *Conjunction* is the *perfectest amity*, the *Sun* contrariwise is *good* by *Aspect*, but *evil* by *Conjunction*.

A third *Reprehension* is, because *Evil* approacheth to *Good*, sometimes for *concealment*, sometimes for *protection*: And *Good* to *Evil* for *conversion* and *reformation*. So *Hypocrisie* draweth near to *Religion* for *colour* and *hiding* it self.

Sæpe latet vitium proximitate boni.

Oft, under neighb'ring Good, Vice *shrowded lies.*

And *Sanctuary-men*, which were commonly *inordinate* men, and *Malefactors*, were wont to be nearest to *Priests*, and *Prelates*, and *Holy-men*: for the *Adjesty* of *good* things is such, as the *Confines* of them are *reverend*. On the other side, our *Saviour*, charged with nearness of *Publicans* and *Sinners*, said *Matth.* 9. 12. *The Physician approacheth the sick rather than the whole.*

8 *Quod.*

8. *Quod quis culpa sua contraxit, Majus Malum; quod ab externis imponitur, Minus Malum.* That is,

That, which a Man hath procured by his own Default, is a *greater mischief* (or *Evil*;) that, which is laid on by others, is a *lesser Evil*.

THE *Reason* is, because the *sting* and *remorse* of the mind, *accusing* it self, *doubleth* all Adversity: Contrariwise, the *considering* and *recording* inwardly, that a man is *clear* and *free* from *fault*, and just *imputation*, doth *attempt* outward Calamities. For if the *Will* be in the *Sense*, and in the *Conscience* both, there is a *gemination* of it: But if *Evil* be in the *one*, and *Comfort* in the *other*, it is a kind of *Composition*: So the *Poets* in *Tragedies* do make the *most passionate Lamentation*, and those that fore-run *final despair*, to be *accusing*, *questioning*, and *torturing* of a *man's self*.

Seque unum clamat causamque caputque malorum.

She railing doth confess her self to be
The cause and source of her own misery.

And contrariwise, the *extremities* of *worthy* Persons have been *annihilated* in the consideration of *their own good deserving*: Besides, when the *Evil* cometh from *without*, there is left a kind of *evaporation*

poration of *grief*, if it come by *human injury*, either by *indignation*, and *meditating* of *revenge* from our selves, or by *expecting*, or *fore-conceiving*, that *Nemesis* and *Retribution* will take hold of the *Authors* of our *hurt*; or, if it be by *fortune* or *accident*; yet there is left a kind of *expostulation* against the *Divine Powers*.

Atque Deos atque Astra vocat crudelia Mater:

The Gods and cruel Stars the Mother doth charge.

But, where the *Evil* is derived from a man's *own fault*, there all strikes *deadly inwards* and *suffocateth*.

The *Reprehension* of this *Colour* is:

First, in respect of *Hope*: For Reformation of our *fault* is in *nostra potestate*, our *own power*; but amendment of our *fortune* simply is not. Therefore *Demosthenes* in many of his *Orations* saith thus to the People of *Athens*; *That which having regard to the time* past, *is the worse Point and Circumstance of all the rest*; *That as to the time* to come, *is the best*. *What is that? Even this*; *that by your Sloth, Irresolution, and Misgovernment, your affairs are grown to this Declination and Decay: For, had you used and ordered your means and forces to the best, and done your parts every way to the full; and notwithstanding your matters should have gone backward in this manner as they do; there had been no hope left of Recovery or Reputation. But since it hath been only by your own errors*, &c. So *Epictetus*

in

in his *Degrees* saith, *The worst state of man is to accuse extern Things, better than that to accuse any man's self, and best of all to accuse neither.*

Another *Reprehension* of this *Colour*, is in respect of the *well bearing* of *Evils*, wherewith a man can charge no body but *himself*, which maketh them the *less*.

——— Levis fit, quod bene fertur onus.

That Burthen's light, that's on discreetly laid.

And therefore many *natures*, that are either *extreamly proud*, and will take *no* fault to *themselves*; or else *very true*, and *cleaving* to *themselves*, (when they see the *blame* of any thing that falls out, to rest light upon *themselves*) have no other *refuge*, but to *bear* it *out well*, and to *make the least* of it. For, as we see, when sometimes a *fault* is *committed*, and before it be known, *who* is to *blame*, much *ado* is made of it; but after, if it appear to be done by a *Son*, or by a *Wife*, or by a *near Friend*; then it is *light made of*: So much more, when a man must *take it upon himself*. And therefore it is commonly seen, that *Women* which marry *Husbands* of their *own chusing*, against their *Friends consents*; if they be never so *ill-used*, yet you shall seldom see them *complain*, but *set a good face on it*.

9. *Quod*

Quod opera & virtute nostra partum est; Majus Bonum: Quod ab alieno beneficio, vel ab indulgentia Fortunæ, delatum est; Minus Bonum. That is,

That which is gotten by our own Pains and Industry, is a *greater good*; that which comes by another man's Courtesie, or the Indulgence of Fortune, is a *lesser Good*.

THE *Reasons* are,

First, The *future Hope*: Because in the *favour* of *others*, or the *good Winds* of *Fortune*, we have no *state*, or *certainty*; In our *endeavours*, or *abilities*, we have. So as when they have purchased us *one good Fortune*, we have them as *ready*, and *better edged* and *environed* to procure *another*.

The *Forms* be; *You have won this by play*. *You have not only the* Water, *but you have the* Receipt: *You can make it again, if it be lost*, &c.

Next, because these *Properties*, which we enjoy by the *benefit* of *others*, carry with them an *obligation*, which seemeth a kind of *burthen*; Whereas the *other*, which *derive* from *our selves*, are like the *freest Patents*, *Absque aliquo indè reddendo*, without *making any restitution*: And if they proceed from *Fortune*, or *Providence*, yet they seem to touch us secretly with the *reverence* of the *Divine Powers*, whose *Favours* we *taste*, and therefore work a kind of *Religious Fear* and *Restraint*:

stratum: Whereas, in the *other* kind, that comes to pass, which the *Prophet* speaketh, *Ezek. Lætantur, exultant, immolant plagis suis & sacrificent rete suo*: Men are *glad*, they *rejoice*, they *offer to* their *Toils*, and *sacrifice to their Nets*.

Thirdly, Because that, which commeth unto us without *our own Virtue*, yieldeth not that *Commendation* and *Reputation*: For *admiration* of *great Felicity* may draw *wonder*, but *praise* less; as *Cicero* said to *Cæsar*, *Quæ mirentur, habemus*; *quæ laudemus, expectamus*: That is, They *have* what they might *wonder* at; but *expect* what they might *praise*.

Fourthly, Because the *purchases* of our *own Industry* are joyned continually with *labour* and *pain*; which giveth an *edge* and *appetite*, and makes the *fruition* of our *Desires* more *pleasant*. *Suavis cibus à venatione*: Venison is sweet of one's own killing.

On the other side, there be four *Counter-Colours* to this *Colour*, rather than *Reproaches*; because they be as *large* as the *Colour* it self.

First, Because *felicity* seemeth to be a *Character* of the *Favour* and *Love* of the *Divine Powers*; and accordingly works both of *confidence* in *our selves*, and *respect* and *authority* from *others*. And this *felicity* extendeth to many *casual things*; whereunto the *care* and *virtue* of man cannot extend; and therefore seemeth to be at *large* Good. As when *Cæsar* said to the Sailer; *Cæsarem portas, & fortunam ejus*; That he carried *Cæsar* and his *Fortune*: If he had said, *Et virtutem ejus*, and

his *Valour*; it had been *small comfort* against a *Tempest*, otherwise than if it might seem upon *Merit*, to induce *Fortune*.

Next, Whatsoever is done by *Virtue* and *Industry*, seems to be done by a kind of *Habit* and *Art*; and thereupon open to be *imitated* and *followed*: Whereas *Felicity* is *imitable*. So we generally see, that things of *Nature* seem more excellent than things of *Art*, because they be *imitable*; for, *Quod imitabile est, potentiâ quadam vulgatum est*: *What* is imitable, *is by a certain power made known abroad*.

Thirdly, *Felicity* commendeth those *things* which come *without* our own *labour*: For they seem *Gifts*, and the *others* seem *Pens worth*. Whereupon *Plutarch* saith elegantly of the *Acts* of *Timoleon*, who was so *fortunate*, compared with the *Acts* of *Agesilaus* and *Epaminondas*, That they *were like* Homer's *Verses*; *they ran so easily, and so well*. And therefore it is the *Word* we give unto *Poesie*, terming it a *happy Vein*; because *Facility* seemeth ever to come from *Happiness*.

Fourthly, This same *præter spem, vel expectatum*, when *things* happen besides *Hope* or *Expectation*, it doth increase the *Price* and *Pleasure* of many *things*; and this cannot be incident to those *things* that proceed from our own *care*, and *compassing*.

10. *Gradus*

Gradus Privationis major videtur, quam gradus Diminutionis: Et rursus Gradus Incrementi major videtur, quam Gradus Decrementi. That is, The Degree of *Privation* seems greater than the Degree of *Diminution*. And again, the Degree of *Creation*, or *Beginning*, seems greater than the Degree of *Increase*.

This is a Position in the *Mathematicks*, that *there is no Proportion between something and nothing*: Therefore the Degree of *Nullity* and *Quiddity*, or *Ens*, seemeth larger than the Degrees of *Increase* and *Decrease*. As to a *Monoculus*, it is more to lose *one Eye* than to Man that hath *two Eyes*. So, if one have lost *divers Children*, it is *more grief* to him to lose the *last*, than *all the rest*; because he is *Spes Gregis*, the *Hope of his Stock*. And therefore *Sibylla*, when she brought her *three Books*, and had burned *Two*, did *double* the *whole price* of *both the other*; because the *burning* of *those* had been *gradus privationis*, a Degree of *Privation*, and not *Diminutionis*, of *Diminution*.

This *Colour* is reprehended:

First, In those things, the *Use* and *Service* whereof resteth in *sufficiency*, *competency*, or *determinate quantity*: As if a man be to pay *one hundred Pounds* upon *penalty*, it is more to him to want *twelve Pence*, than after that *twelve Pence*, supposed to be *wanting*, to want *ten Shillings* more.

So the *decay* of a *Man's Estate* seems to be *not touched* in the Degree, when he *first grows behind* more than afterwards, when he proves *nothing worth*. And hereof the common *Forms* are: *Sero in fundo parsimonia*; or, *It is too late to pinch, when the Purse is at the bottom*; and, *as good never a whit as never the better.*

It is *reprehended* also in respect of that Notion, *Corruptio unius, generatio alterius*: That the Corruption of one thing is the Generation of another. So that *Gradus Privationis*, the *Privative Degree* is many times *left Master*, because it gives the *cause* and *motive* to some *new Course*. As when *Demosthenes* reprehended the People for *hearkening* to the *Conditions* offered by K. *Philip*, being not *honourable*, nor *equal*, he saith, *They were the Elements of their sloth and weakness; which if they were taken away, necessity would teach them stronger Resolutions.* So Doctor *Hooker* was wont to say to the *Dames of London*, when they complained they *were they could not tell how*, but yet they could not endure *to take any Medicine*, he would tell them, *their way was only to be sick; for then they would be glad to take any Medicine.*

Thirdly, This *Colour* may be *reprehended* in respect that the degree of *Decrease* is more *sensible* than the Degree of *Privation*; for in the mind of Men, *Gradus Diminutionis*, the Degree of *Decrease*, may work a *wavering* between *Hope* and *Fear*, and keep the mind in *suspence*, from *settling*, and accommodating in *Patience*, and *Resolution*. Hereof the common *Forms* are; *Better cry out, than always ask*; *make or mar*, &c. For

For the *second Branch* of this *Colour*, it depends upon the ſame *General Reaſon*: Hence grew the *Common Place* of extolling the *beginning* of every thing;

Dimidium facti, qui bene cœpit, habet.

He hath his Work half done,
Whoe'r hath well begun.

This made the *Aſtrologer* ſo idle, as to judge of *Man's Nature*, and *Deſtiny*, by the *Conſtellation* of the moment of his *Nativity*, or *Conception*.

This *Colour* is *reprehended*, becauſe many *Inceptions* are but (as *Epicurus* termeth them,) *Tentamenta*, that is, *imperfect Offers*, and *Eſſays*, which *vaniſh*, and come to *no ſubſtance*, without any *iteration*; ſo as, in ſuch *Caſes*, the *ſecond Degree* ſeems the *worthieſt*; as the *Body-Horſe* in the *Cart*, that draweth more than the *Fore-Horſe*. Hereof the common *Forms*; *The ſecond Blow makes the Fray. The ſecond Word makes the Bargain. Alter principium dedit, alter modum abſtulit*, &c. The one began, the other kept no mean.

Another *Reprehenſion* of this *Colour*, is in reſpect of *Defatigation*, which makes *perſeverance* of greater Dignity than *Inception*: For *Chance* or *Inſtinct* of *Nature* may cauſe *Inception*; but *ſettled Affection*, or *Judgment*, maketh the *Continuance*.

Thirdly, This *Colour* is *reprehended* in ſuch *things*, which have a *Natural Courſe* and *Inclina-*

tion, contrary to an *Inception*: So that the *Inception* is continually encreased, and gets no stop; but there behoveth perpetua *Inceptio*, that there be *always a beginning*; as in the common *Forme*: *Non progredi, est regredi.* *Not to go* forward, is to go backward. *Qui non proficit, deficit.* *He who makes no* Progress decays. *Running against an Hill*; *Rowing against the Stream*, or with the *Hill*, then the Degree of *Inception* is more than *all the rest*.

Fourthly, This *Colour* is to be understood: *Gradus Inceptionis à potentia ad actum comparati, non gradus ab actu ad Incrementum*: Of the Degree of Inception, in comparison of the Power unto the Act; not of the Degree from the Act to the Increase. For otherwise, *Major videtur gradus ab impotentia ad potentiam, quam à potentia ad actum*; The Degree from Impotency to Potency, seems greater than from the Power to the Act.

11. *Quod laudant homines & celebrant, bonum; quod vituperant, & reprehendunt, malum.*

12. That which Men praise and celebrate, is good; that which they disgrace, and reprehend is bad.

THis Colour deceives four ways, viz. either through Ignorance, or through want of Integrity; or through particular Respect and Faction; or through the natural inclination of those that praise, or dispraise. First, Through

Ignorance; for what signifies the Judgment of the Rabble in distinguishing and determining Good and Evil? *Phocion* knew well enough, who, when the People applauded him more than ordinary, asked, *Whether he had done any thing amiss?* Secondly, Through *want of Integrity*; for those that praise and dispraise commonly carry on their own Designs and don't speak what they think.

Laudat venales qui vult extendere merces.

Every Man praises the Wares he would put off.

Is it naught, or is naught, says the Buyer; but when he is gone, he vaunteth. Thirdly, Out of *Partiality*; for every one knows, that men use to extol with immoderate praise those that are on their own side, and to depress those of the adverse Party below their desert. Lastly, Through a natural *Inclination*; for some men are by nature framed and moulded for servile Fawning and Flattery, whilst others on the contrary are stiff, captious and morose; and when these commend or inveigh, they do but comply with their own Humours, not troubling their heads overmuch about the Truth of the business.

12. *Quod etiam ad inimicis fundatur, magnum bonum; quod verò etiam ab amicis reprehenditur, magnum malum.*

12. That

12. That which draws commendation even from Enemies, is a great Good; but that which is reprehended even by Friends, is a great Evil.

THIS Colour seems to stand upon this Foundation, That it may well be believed, that the force of Truth extorts from us whatsoever we affirm to be against our Wills, and contrary to the bent and inclination of our Minds.

This Colour deceives through the subtilty, as well of Enemies as Friends; For the praises of Enemies are not always against their Wills, nor as forc'd by Truth, but they chuse to bestow them in such cases where they may create Envy or Danger to their Adversaries. Therefore the *Grecians* had a superstitious Fancy, that if a man were commended by another out of spight, and with a mischievous design, he would have a pustule rise upon his Nose: Besides, sometimes Enemies bestow Praises, like Preambles as 'twere, that they may the more freely and maliciously calumniate. On the other side, this Colour deceives, from the craft of Friends; for they'll sometimes take notice of the faults of their Friends, and speak freely of them; but they chuse such as may do them little hurt, as if for all the rest they were the best Men in the World. Again, it deceives, because Friends use their Reprehensions (as we said Enemies do their Commendations) as certain little Prefaces, after which they may expatiate more freely in their Praises.

FINIS.

THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS.

Written in *Latin* by the Right Honourable Sir *FRANCIS BACON*, Knight, Baron of *Verulam*, and Lord Chancellor of *England*.

Done into *Englisb* by Sir *Arthur Gorges*, Knight.

Scutum invincibile fides.

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THE

WISDOM

OF THE

ANCIENTS.

THE PREFACE.

THE Antiquities of the first Age (except those we find in Sacred Writ) were buried in Oblivion and Silence: Silence soon succeeded by Poetical Fables; and Fables again were followed by the Records we now enjoy. So that the Mysteries and Secrets of Antiquity were distinguished and separated from the Records and Evidences of succeeding Times by the veil of Fiction, which interposed it self, and came between those things which perished, and those which are extant. I suppose some are of opinion, that my purpose is to write Toys and Trifles, and to usurp the same liberty in applying what the Poets assumed in feigning, which I might do (I confess) if I listed, and with more serious contemplation interlace these things, to delight either my self in Meditation, or others in Reading. Neither am I ig-

I ignorant how fickle and inconſtant a thing Fiction is, as being ſubject to be drawn and wreſted any way, and how great the commodity of Wit and Diſcourſe is, that is able to apply things well, yet ſo as never meant by the firſt Authors. But I remember that this liberty hath been lately much abuſed, in that many, to purchaſe the reverence of Antiquity to their own Inventions and Fancies, have for the ſame intent laboured to wreſt many Poetical Fables: Neither hath this old and common Vanity been uſed only of late, or now and then: For even Chryſippus *long ago did (as an Interpreter of Dreams) aſcribe the Opinions of the Stoicks to the Ancient Poets; and more ſottiſhly do the* Chymiſts *appropriate the Fancies and Delights of Poets in the Tranſformation of Bodies, to the Experiments of their Fornace. All theſe things, I ſay, I have ſufficiently conſidered and weighed, and in them have ſeen and noted the general Levity and Indulgence of Men's Wits above Allegories; and yet for all this I relinquiſh not my Opinion.*

For firſt it may not be, that the Folly and Looſneſs of a few ſhould altogether detract from the reſpect due to the Parables: For that

that were a conceipt which might favour of Profaneneſs and Preſumption: For Religion it ſelf doth ſometimes delight in ſuch Veils and Shadows: So that who ſo exempts them, ſeems in a manner to interdict all Commerce between things Divine and Humane. But concerning Humane Wiſdom, I do indeed ingenuouſly and freely confeſs, that I am inclined to imagine, that under ſome of the Ancient Fictions lay couched certain Myſteries and Allegories, even from their firſt invention. And I am perſuaded (whether ravi∫hed with the Reverence of Antiquity, or because in ſome Fables I find ſuch ſingular proportion between the ſimilitude and the thing ſignified; and ſuch apt and clear coherence in the very Structure of them, and propriety of Names wherewith the Perſons or Actors in them are inſcribed and intituled) that no man can conſtantly deny; but this Senſe was in the Authors intent and meaning, when they firſt invented them, and that they purpoſely ſhadowed it in this ſort: For who can be ſo ſtupid and blind in the open Light, as (when he hears how Fame, after the Giants were deſtroyed, ſprang up as their youngeſt Siſter) not to refer it to the Murmurs and ſeditious Reports

of

of both sides, which are wont to fly abroad for a time after the overthrowing of Insurrections? Or when he hears how the Giant Typhon, having cut out and brought away Jupiter's Nerves, which Mercury stole from him, and restored again to Jupiter: does not presently perceive how fitly it may be applied to powerful Rebellions, which take from Princes their Sinews of Money and Authority; but so, that by affability and Speech, and wise Edicts the Minds of the Subjects being in time privily undas'd, and as it were by stealth reconciled, they recover their strength again? Or when he hears how (in that memorable Expedition of the Gods against the Giants) the braying of Silenus his Ass, conduced much to the profligation of the Giants, doth not confidently imagine that it was invented to shew how the greatest enterprizes of Rebels are oftentimes dispersed with vain Rumors and Fears.

Moreover, to what Judgment can the Conformity and Signification of Names seem obscure? Seeing Metis, the Wife of Jupiter, doth plainly signifie Counsel: Typhon, Insurrection: Pan, Universality. Nemesis, Revenge, and the like: Neither let it trouble any man, if sometimes he meet with

Histo-

Historical Narrations, or Additions for Ornament's sake, or confusion of Times, or something transferred from one Fable to another, to bring in a new Allegory: For it could be no otherwise, seeing they were the Inventions of Men, which lived in diverse Ages, and had also diverse Ends; Some being ancient, others neoterical; Some have an eye to things Natural, others to Moral.

There is another Argument, and that no small one neither to prove that these Fables contain certain hidden and enwrapped meanings; seeing some of them are observed to be so absurd & foolish in the very relation that they shew, and as it were proclaim a Parable afar off: For such Tales as are probable they may seem to be invented for delight, and in imitation of History. And as for such as no man would so much as imagine or relate, they seem to be sought out for other ends: For what kind of Fiction is that, wherein Jupiter is said to have taken Metis to Wife; and, perceiving that she was with Child, to have devoured her; whence himself conceiving, brought forth Pallas armed, out of his Head? Truly I think there was never Dream (so different to the course of Cogitation, and so full of Monstrosity,) ever hatc'd

hatch'd in the Brain of Man. Above all things, this prevails most with me, and is of singular moment, many of these Fables seem not to be invented of those by whom they are related, and celebrated, as by Homer, Hesiod and others. For if it were so, that they took beginning in that Age, and from the Authors by whom they are delivered and brought to our hands: My Mind gives me, there could be no great or high Matter expected, or supposed to proceed from them in respect of these Originals. But if with attention we consider the Matter, It will appear, that they were delivered, and related as things formerly believed, and received, and not as newly invented, and offered unto us. Besides, seeing they are diversly related by Writers that lived near about one and the self-same time, we may easily perceive that they were common things, derived from precedent Memorials; and that they became various, by reason of the divers Ornaments bestowed on them by particular Relations: And the consideration of this must needs increase in us a great opinion of them, as not to be accounted either the effects of the times, or inventions of the Poets, but as Sacred Relicks, or abstracted Airs of better times,

which

which by Tradition from more Ancient Nations, fell into the Trumpets and Flutes of the Grecians. But if any do obstinately contend, That Allegories are always adventitially, and as it were by constraint, never naturally, and properly included in Fables, we will not be much troublesome, but suffer them to enjoy that gravity of Judgment, which I am sure they affect, although indeed it be but dunpish, and almost leaden. And (if that be worthy to be taken notice of,) we will begin afresh with them in some other Section.

There is found among Men, (and it goes for current,) a twofold use of Parables, and those, (which is more to be admired,) referred to contrary ends; conducing as well to the folding up, and keeping of things under a Veil, as to the enlightning and laying open of obscurities. But omitting the former, (rather than to undergo wrangling, and assuming antient Fables as things vagrant, and composed only for delight,) the latter must nevertheless still remain as not to be wrested from us by any violence of Wit, neither can any (that is but meanly learned) hinder; but it must absolutely be received, as a thing grave, and sober, free from all vanity, and

exceeding profitable, and necessary to all Sciences. This is it, I say, that leads the understanding of Man by an easie and gentle passage through all novel and abstruse inventions, which any way differ from common received Opinions. Therefore in the first Ages (when many humane Inventions, and Conclusions, which are now common, and vulgar, were new, and not generally known,) all things were full of Fables, Enigmas, Parables, and Similies of all sorts: By which they sought to teach, and lay open, not to hide and conceal Knowledge; especially seeing the Understandings of Men were in those times rude and impatient, and almost incapable of any Subtilities; such things only excepted, as were the Object of Sense; for as Hieroglyphicks *preceded Letters, so Parables were more ancient than Arguments. And in these days also, he that would illuminate Mens minds anew in any old Matter, and that not with disprofit, and harshness, must absolutely take the same Course, and use the help of Similies. Wherefore after all that hath been said, we must thus conclude:* The Wisdom of the Ancients, *it was either much, or happy: Much, if these Figures and Tropes were invented by study*

and

and premeditation; Happy, if they (intending nothing leſs,) gave Matter, and Occaſion to ſo many worthy Meditations. As concerning my Labours, (if there be any thing in them which may do good,) I will on neither part count them ill beſtowed, my purpoſe being to illuſtrate either Antiquity, or Things themſelves. Neither am I ignorant that this very Subject hath been attempted by others: But to ſpeak as I think, and that freely without oſtentation, the Dignity and Efficacy of the Thing is almoſt loſt by theſe Men's Writings, through obſcurity, and full of Pains, whilſt not diving into the depth of Matters, but skilful only in certain common places, have applied the ſenſe of theſe Parables to certain vulgar, and temporal Things, not ſo much as glancing at their true Vertue, genuine Propriety, and full Depth. For (if I be not deceived,) I ſhall be new in common Things. Wherefore leaving ſuch as are plain and open, I will aim at farther and richer Matters.

TO THE
BOOK.

Rich Mine of Art, Minion of Mercury,
True Truch-Man of the Mind of Myst
Invention's Store-House, Nymph of Helicon;
Deep Moralist of Time, Tradition.
Unto this Paragon of Brutus *Race,*
Present thy Service, and with chearful Grace,
Say, (if Pythagoras *believ'd may be,)*
The Soul of Ancient Wisdom *lives in Thee.*

TH

THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS.

CASSANDRA, or, Divination.

THE *Poets* Fable, That *Apollo* being enamoured of *Cassandra*, was by her many shifts and cunning slights still deluded in his Desire; but yet fed on with hope, untill such time as she had drawn from him the Gift of Prophecying; and having by such her Dissimulation, in the end, attained to that which from the beginning she sought after; at last, flatly rejected his Suit. Who finding himself so far engaged in his Promise, as that he could not by any means revoke again his rash Gift, and yet enflamed with an earnest desire of Revenge, highly disdaining to be made the scorn of a crafty Wench, annexed a Penalty to his Pro-

mise, *viz.* that she should ever foretel the truth, but never be believed: So were her Divination always faithful, but at no time regarded; whereof she still found the experience, yea, even in the ruine of her own Countrey, which she had often forewarned them of; but they neither gave credit nor ear to her words. This Fable seems to intimate the unprofitable liberty of untimely admonitions and counsels: For they that are so over-weened with the sharpness and dexterity of their own wit and capacity, as that they disdain to submit themselves to the documents of *Apollo*, the God of Harmony, whereby to learn, and observe the method and measure of affairs, the grace and gravity of Discourse, the differences between the more judicious and more vulgar Ears, and the due times when to speak, and when to be silent; be they never so subtile, and pregnant, and their judgments never so profound, and profitable; yet in all their endeavours either of perluasion, or perforce, they avail nothing, neither are they of any moment to advantage or manage matters; but do rather hasten on the ruine of all those that they adhere, or devote themselves unto. And then at last, when calamity doth make men feel the event of neglect, then shall they too late be reverenced as divine foreseeing, and faithful Prophets. Whereof a notable instance is eminently set forth in *Marcus Cato Uticensis*, who, as from a watch-tower, discovered afar off, and, as an Oracle, long foretold the approaching ruine of his Country, and

the

the plotted Tyranny hovering over the State, both in the first Conspiracy, and as it was prosecuted in the Civil Contention between *Cæsar* & *Pompey*, and did no good the while, but rather harmed the Commonwealth, and haſtned on his Countrey's bane; which *M. Cicero* wiſely obſerved, and writing to a familiar Friend, doth in theſe terms excellently deſcribe, *Catoo optime ſentit, ſed nocet interdum Reipublicæ: Loquitur enim tanquam in Republica Platonis, non tanquam in face Romuli. Cato* (ſaith he,) judgeth profoundly, but in the mean time damniſies the State; for he ſpeaks in the Commonwealth of *Plato*, and not at in the Dregs of *Romulus*.

TYPHON. or a Rebel.

JUNO being vex'd, (ſay the Poets) that *Jupiter* had begotten *Pallas* by himſelf without her, earneſtly preſſed all the other Gods and Goddeſſes that ſhe might alſo bring forth of her ſelf alone without him; and having by violence, and importunity obtained a grant thereof, ſhe ſmote the Earth, & forthwith ſprang up *Typhon*, a huge, and horrid Monſter. This ſtrange Birth ſhe commits to a Serpent, (as a Foſter-Father,) to nouriſh it; who no ſooner came to ripeneſs of years, but he provokes *Jupiter* to Battel. In the Conflict, the Giant getting the upper hand, takes *Jupiter* upon his ſhoulders, carries him into a remote

remote, and obscure Country, and (cutting out the sinews of his hands and feet,) brought them away, and so left him miserably mangled and maimed. But *Mercury* recovering their Nerves from *Typhon* by stealth, restored them again to *Jupiter*. *Jupiter* being again by this means corroborated, assaults the Monster afresh, and at the first strikes him with a Thunder-bolt, from whose Blood Serpents were engendred. This Monster at length fainting, and flying, *Jupiter* casts on him the Mount *Aetna*, and with the weight thereof crush'd him.

This Fable seems to point at the variable fortune of Princes, and the rebellious insurrection of Traytors in a State: For Princes may well be said to be married to their Dominions, as *Jupiter* was to *Juno*; but it happens now and then that being debosht by the long custom of empiring and bending towards Tyranny, they endeavour to draw all to themselves, and contemning the Counsel of their Nobles and Senators, hatch Laws in their own Brain, that dispose of things by their own fancy, and absolute power. The people (beginning at this) do how to create, and set up a Chief of their own choice. This Project by the secret instigation of the Peers, and Nobles, doth for the most part take his beginning; by whose connivence the Commons being set on edge, there follows a kind of murmuring, or discontent in the State, slow'd by the Infancy of *Typhon*, which being nurs'd by the natural gravity, and clownish ig-

ligality of the vulgar sort, (unto Princes, as infestious as Serpents,) is again repaired by a renewed strength, and at last breaks out into open Rebellion, which (because it brings infinite mischiefs upon Prince and People,) is represented by the monstrous deformity of *Typhon*: his hundred heads signifie their divided powers; his fiery mouths, their inflamed intents; his Serpentine Circles, their pestilent Malice in besieging; his iron Hands, their merciless slaughters; his Eagles Talons, their greedy Rapines; his plumed Body, their continual Rumors, and Scouts, and Fears, and such like; and sometimes these Rebellions grow so potent, that Princes are inforced (transported as it were, by the Rebels, and forsaking the chief Seats and Cities of the Kingdom,) to contract their Power, and (being deprived of the Sinews of Money & Majesty,) betake themselves to some remote and obscure corner within their Dominions: but in process of time, (if they bear their Misfortunes with moderation,) they may recover their strength, by the virtue and industry of *Mercury*; that is, they may (by becoming affable, and by reconciling the minds and wills of their Subjects with grave Edicts, and gracious Speech,) excite an alacrity to grant Aids and Subsidies, whereby to strengthen their Authority anew. Nevertheless, having learned to be wise and wary, they will refrain to try the chanse of Fortune by war, and yet study how to suppress the reputation of the Rebels by some famous Action, which if it

fall

fall out answerable to their expectation, they loose hearts finding themselves weakned, and fearing the success of their broken Projects; betake themselves to some slight, and vain Bravadoes, like the hissing of Serpents, and at length in despair betake themselves to flight; and then when they begin to break, it is safe and timely for Kings to pursue, and oppress them with the Forces and Weight of the Kingdom, as it were with the Mountain *Aetna*.

The CYCLOPS, *or the Ministers of Terror.*

THEY say that the *Cyclops*, for their fierceness, and cruelty, were by *Jupiter* cast into Hell, and there doomed to perpetual imprisonment; but *Tellus* perswaded *Jupiter* that it would do well, if being set at liberty, they were put to forge Thunder-bolts, which being done accordingly, they became so painful and industrious, as that day and night they continued hammering out in laborious diligence Thunder-bolts, and other Instruments of Terror. In process of time *Jupiter* having conceited a Displeasure against *Aesculapius*, the Son of *Apollo*, for restoring a dead man to life by Physick; and concealing his dislike, because there was no just cause of anger, the deed being pious and famous, secretly incens'd the *Cyclops* against him, who

without

without delay slew him with a Thunder-bolt. In revenge of which Act, *Apollo* (*Jupiter* not prohibiting it) shot them to Death with his Arrows.

This Fable may be applied to the Projects of Kings, who having cruel, bloody, and exacting Officers, do first punish and displace them; afterwards by the counsel of *Tellus*, that is, of some base, and ignoble Person, and by the prevailing respect of Profit, they admit them into their Places again, that they may have Instruments in a readiness, if at any time there should need either severity of execution, or acerbity of exaction. These servile Creatures being by nature cruel, and by their former fortune exasperated, and perceiving well what is expected at their hands, do shew themselves wonderful officious in such kind of Employments; but being too rash, and precipitate in seeking countenance, and creeping into favour, do sometimes take occasion from the secret Becknings, and ambiguous Commands of their Prince, to perform some hateful execution. But Princes (abhorring the fact, and knowing well, that they shall never want such kind of Instruments,) do utterly forsake them, turning them over to the Friends and Allies of the wronged, to their Accusations and Revenge, and to the general Hatred of the People; so that with great Applause, and prosperous Wishes and Acclamations towards the Prince, they are brought, rather too late, than undeservedly, to a miserable end.

NAR-

NARCISSUS, or, Self-Love.

THey say, that *Narcissus* was exceeding fair and beautiful, but wonderful proud and disdainful; wherefore despising all others in respect of himself, he leads a solitary Life in the Woods and Chases, with a few Followers, to whom he alone was all in all; amongst the rest, there follows him the Nymph *Echo*. During his course of Life, it fatally so chanced, that he came to a clear Fountain, upon the Bank whereof he lay down to repose himself in the heat of the Day. And having espied the shadow of his own Face in the Water, was so besotted, and ravished with the contemplation and admiration thereof, that he by no means possible could be drawn from beholding his Image in this Glass; insomuch, that by continual gazing therenpon, he pined away to nothing, and was at last turned into a Flower of his own Name, which appears in the beginning of the Spring, and is sacred to the infernal Powers, *Pluto*, *Proserpina*, and the *Furies*.

This Fable seems to shew the Dispositions and Fortunes of those, who in respect either of their Beauty, or other Gift wherewith they are adorned, and graced by Nature, without the help of Industry, are so far besotted in themselves, as that they prove the cause of their own destruction.

destruction. For it is the property of Men infected with this Humour, not to come much abroad, or to be conversant in Civil Affairs, specially seeing those that are in publick Place, must of necessity encounter with many Contempts, and Scorns, which may much deject, and trouble their Minds; and therefore they lead for the most part a solitary, private, and obscure Life, attended on with a few Followers, and those, such as will adore, and admire them, like unto flatter them in all their Sayings, and applaud them in all their Words. So that being by this Custom seduced, and puft up, and as it were, stupified with the admiration of themselves, they are possessed with so strange a Sloth and dulness, that they grow in a manner benumb'd, and defective of all vigour and alacrity. Elegantly doth this Flower, appearing in the beginning of the Spring, represent the likeness of these Men's Dispositions, who, in their youth do flourish, and wax famous; but being come to ripeness of years, they deceive and frustrate the good hope that is conceived of them. Neither is it impertinent that this Flower is said to be consecrated to the infernal Deities, because Men of this disposition become unprofitable to all humane things: For whatsoever produceth no Fruit of it self, but passeth, and vanisheth as if it had never been, (like the way of a Ship in the Sea,) that the Ancients were wont to dedicate to the Ghosts, and Powers below.

STYX,

Styx, or Leagues.

THE Oath by which the Gods were wont to oblige themselves, (when they meaned to ratifie any thing so firmly as never to revoke it,) is a thing well known to the Vulgar, as being mentioned almost in every Fable; which was when they did not invoke or call to witness any Celestial Majesty, or Divine Power, but only the River *Styx*, that with crooked and *Meander*-Turnings incircleth the Palace of the infernal *Dis*. This was held as the only manner of their Sacrament; and besides it, not any other Vow to be accounted firm, and inviolable; and therefore the punishment to be inflicted, (if any did perjure themselves,) was, that for certain years they should be put out of Commons, and not to be admitted to the Table of the Gods.

This Fable seems to point at the Leagues and Pacts of Princes, of which, more truly, than opportunely, may be said, That be they never so strongly confirmed with the Solemnity and Religion of an Oath, yet are for the most part, of no validity; insomuch that they are made in them with an Eye to Reputation, and Repose, and Ceremony, than to Faith, Security, and Effect. Moreover, add to these the Bond of Affinity, as the Sacrament of Nature, and mutual Deserts of each Part, and you shall observe, that

that with a great many, all these things are placed in a degree under Ambition and Profit, and the licentious desire of Domination; and to much the rather, because it is a easie thing for Princes to defend and cover their unlawful Deeds and unfaithful Vows, with many outwardly seeming fair Pretexts, especially seeing there is no Empire or Moderator of Matters concluded upon to whom a Reason should be rendred. Therefore there is no true and proper thing made choice of for the confirmation of Faith, and that as celestial Power neither, but is indeed *Necessity*, (a great God to great Potentates,) the Peril also of State, and the Communication of Profit. As for *Necessity*, it is elegantly represented by *Styx*, that fatal and irremeable River; and this Godhead did *Iphicrates*, the *Athenian*, call to the Confirmation of a League; who because he alone is found to speak plainly that which many hide covertly in their Breasts, it would not be amiss to relate his words. He observing how the *Lacedemonians* had thought upon, and propounded divers Cautions, Sanctions, Confirmations and Bonds, pertaining to Leagues, interposed thus: *Unum Lacedæmonii, nobis vobiscum vinculum & securitatis ratio esse possit; si plane demonstreris, vos ea nobis concessisse, & inter manus posuisse, ut vobis facultas ladendi nos, si animus vellet, minime supperetere possit.* There is one thing (O *Lacedæmonians*) that would link us unto you in the Bond of Amity, and be the occasion of Peace and Security; which is, if you would plainly

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plainly demonstrate, that you have yielded up and put into our hands such things as that, were you sure us never so much, you should not be disfurnished of means to do it. If therefore the power of hurting be taken away, or if by breach of League there follow the danger of the ruine or diminution of the State of Troy; then indeed the Leagues may seem to be razed and established, and as it were confirmed by the Sacrament of the *Stygian* Lake: seeing that includes the fear of Prohibition and Suspension from the Table of the Gods, under which name the Laws and Prerogatives, the Plenty and Felicity of a Kingdom were signified by the Ancients.

PAN, or Nature.

THE *Ancients* have exquisitely described Nature under the Person of *Pan*, whose original they leave doubtful; for some say that he was the Son of *Mercury*, others attribute unto him a far different beginning, affirming him to be the common Off-spring of *Penelope*'s Suitors, upon suspition, that every one of them had to do with her; which latter relation doubtless gave occasion to some after Writers to entitle this ancient Fable with the name of *Penelope*, a thing very frequent amongst them, when they apply old Fictions to young persons and names, a thing many times absurdly and indiscreetly,

may be seen here: For *Pan* being one of the Ancient Gods, was long before the time of *Ulysses* and *Penelope*. Besides (for her Matronal Chastity) she was held venerable by Antiquity. Neither may we pretermit the third conceit of his Birth: For some say, That he was the Son of *Jupiter* and *Hybris*, which signifies contumely or disdain. But howsoever begotten, the *Parcæ* (they say) were his Sisters. He is pourtrayed by the *Ancients* in this guess; on his Head a pair of Horns to reach to Heaven, his Body rough and hairy, his Beard long and shaggy, his shape informed, above like a Man, below like a Beast, his Feet like Goat's hoofs, bearing these Ensigns of his Jurisdiction, to wit, in his left-hand a Pipe of seven Reeds, and in his right a Sheep-hook, or a Staff crooked at the upper end, and his Mantle made of a *Leopard's*-Skin. His Dignities and Offices were these: He was the God of Hunters, of Shepherds, and of all Rural Inhabitants: chief President also of Hills and Mountains, and next to *Mercury*, the Embassador of the Gods. Moreover, He was accounted the Leader and Commander of the *Nymphs*, which were always wont to dance the rounds, and frisk about him; he was accosted by the *Satyrs* and the old *Sileni*. He had power also to strike Men with terrors, and those especially vain and superstitious, which are termed *Panick fears*. His acts were not many, for ought that can be found in Records, the chiefest was, that he challenged *Cupid* at wrestling, in which conflict he had the foil. The

Tale goes too, how that he caught the Gyant *Typhon* in a Net, and held him fast. Moreover, when *Ceres* (grumbling and chafing that *Proserpina* was ravished) had hid her self away, and that all the Gods took pains (by dispersing themselves into every corner) to find her out, it was only his good hap (as he was hunting) to light on her, and acquaint the rest where she was. He presumed also to put it to the tryal who was the best Musician, he or *Apollo*, and by the judgment of *Midas* was indeed preferred: But the wise Judge had a pair of Asses Ears privately chopt to his Noddle for his sentence. Of his Love-tricks there is nothing reported, or at least not much a thing to be wondred at, especially being among a Troop of Gods so profusely amorous. This only is said of him, that he loved the Nymph *Echo* (whom he took to Wife) and one pretty Wench more called *Syrinx*, towards whom *Cupid* (in an angry and revengeful humour, because so audaciously he had challenged him at Wrestling) inflamed his desire. Moreover, he had no Issue (which is a marvel also, seeing the Gods, especially those of the Male kind, were very generative) only he was the reputed Father of a little Girl called *Jambe*, that with many pretty Tales was wont to make strangers merry; but some think that he did indeed beget her by his Wife *Jambe*. This (if any be) is a noble Tale, as being laid out, and big-bellied with the Secrets and Mysteries of Nature.

Pan

Pan (as his name imports) represents and lays open the All of Things or Nature. Concerning his original there are two only Opinions that go for currant; for either he came of *Mercury*, that is, the Word of God, which the Holy Scriptures without all controversie affirm, and such of the Philosophers as had any smack of Divinity assented unto; or else from the confused Seeds of things. For they that would have one simple beginning, refer it unto God; or if a materiate beginning, they would have it various in power. So that we may end the Controversie with this Distribution, That the World took beginning, either from *Mercury*, or from the Seeds of all things.

Virg. Eclog. 6.

Namque canebat uti magnum per inane coacta
Semina, terrarumque, animæque, marisque fuissent,
Et liquidi simul ignis: Et his exordia primis
Omnia, & ipse tener mundi concreverit Orbis.

For rich-vein'd *Orpheus* sweetly did rehearse
How that the Seeds of Fire, Air, Water, Earth,
Were all pact in the vast void Universe:
And how from these as Firstlings, all had birth,
And how the Body of this Orbick frame,
From tender infancy so big became.

But, as touching the third conceit of *Pan*'s Original, it seems that the *Grecians* (either by intercourse with the *Ægyptians*, or one way or other) had heard something of the *Hebrew* Mysteries;

steries; for it points to the state of the World, not considered in immediate Creation, but after the fall of *Adam*, exposed and made subject to Death and Corruption: For in that state it was (and remains to this day) the Off-spring of God and Sin. And therefore all these Three Narrations concerning the manner of *Pan*'s birth may seem to be true, if it be rightly distinguished between Things and Times. For this *Pan* or Nature (which we suspect, contemplate and reverence more than is fit) took beginning from the Word of God by the means of confused matter, and the entrance of Prevarication and Corruption. The Destinies may well be thought the Sisters of *Pan* or *Nature*, because the beginnings and continuances, and corruptions and depressions, and dissolutions, and eminences, and labours and felicities of things, and all the chances which can happen unto any thing, are knit with the Chain of Causes natural.

Horns are attributed unto him, because Horns are broad at the root and sharp at the ends, the nature of all things being like a *Pyramis*, sharp at the top. For individual or singular things being infinite are first collected into *species*, which are many also; then from *species* into *generals*, and from *generals* (by ascending) are contracted into things or notions more general; so that at length *Nature* may seem to be contracted into an unity. Neither is it to be wondred at, that *Pan* toucheth Heaven with his Horns, seeing the height of Nature or universal *Ideas* do, in some sort,

sort, pertain to things Divine, and there is a ready and short Passage from *Metaphysick* to natural *Theology*.

The Body of *Nature* is elegantly and with deep judgment depainted hairy, representing the beams or operations of creatures; for beams are as it were the Hairs and Bristles of *Nature*, and every creature is either more or less beamy, which is most apparent in the faculty of seeing, and no less in every vertue and operation that effectuates upon a distant Object, for whatsoever works up any thing afar off, that may rightly be said to dart froth Rays or Beams.

Moreover, *Pan*'s Beard is said to be exceeding long, because the beams or influences of Celestial Bodies do operate and pierce farthest of all; and the Sun, when (his higher half is shadowed with a Cloud) his Beams break out in the lower, and looks as if he were bearded.

Nature is also excellently set forth with a biformed Body, with respect to the differences between superior and inferior Creatures. For one part, by reason of their Pulcritude, and equability of motion, and constancy and dominion over the Earth and earthly things, is worthily set out by the shape of Man: and the other part in respect of their perturbations and unconstant motions, (and therefore needing to be moderated by the Celestial) may be well fitted with the figure of a Brute Beast. This Description of his Body pertains also to the participation of *Species*, for no natural being seems to be simple, but as it

were participated and compounded of two. As for example, Man hath something of a Beast, a Beast something of a Plant, a Plant something of inanimate Body, of that all natural things are in very deed beformed, that is to say, compounded of a superior and inferior *Species*.

It is a witty Allegory, that same of the Feet of the Goat, by reason of the upward tending motion of Terrestrial Bodies towards the Air and Heaven, for the Goat is a climbing Creature, that loves to be hanging about the Rocks and steep Mountains; and this is done also in a wonderful manner, even by those things which are destinated to this inferior Globe, as may manifestly appear in Clouds and Meteors.

The two Ensigns which *Pan* bears in his hand do point, the one at Harmony, the other at Empire: For the Pipe consisting of seven Reeds, doth evidently demonstrate the concent, and Harmony, and discordant concord of all inferior Creatures, which is caused by the Motion of the seven Planets: And that of the Sheep-hook may be excellently apply'd to the order of nature, which is partly right, partly crooked: This Staff therefore or Rod is specially crooked in the upper end, because all the works of Divine Providence in the World are done in a far fetcht and circular manner, so that one thing may seem to be affected and yet indeed a clean contrary brought to pass; as the selling of *Joseph* into *Ægypt*, and the like. Besides in all wise Humane Government, they that sit at the Helm do more happily bring their pur-

purpoſes about, and inſinuate more eaſily into the minds of the People, by pretexts and oblique courſes, than by direct methods: ſo that all Scepters and Maſſes of Authority ought in very deed to be crooked in the upper end.

Pan's Cloak or Mantle is ingeniouſly feigned to be a Skin of a Leopard, becauſe it is full of Spots: So the Heavens are ſpotted with Stars, the Sea with Rocks and Iſlands, the Land with Flowers, and every particular Creature alſo is for the moſt part garniſhed with divers colours about the ſuperficies, which is as it were a Mantle unto it.

The Office of *Pan* can be by nothing ſo lively conceived and expreſt, as by feigning him to be the God of Hunters, for every natural action, and ſo by conſequence, Motion and Progreſſion, is nothing elſe but a Hunting. Arts and Sciences have their works, and Humane Counſels their ends which they earneſtly hunt after. All natural things have either their Food as a Prey, or their Pleaſure as a Recreation which they ſeek for, and that in moſt expert and ſagacious manner.

Torva Leæna Lupum ſequitur, Lupus ipſe Capellam.
Florentem Cytiſum ſequitur laſciva Capella.

The hungry Lioneſs, (with ſharp deſire)
Purſues the Wolf, the Wolf the wanton Goat:
The Goat again doth greedily aſpire
To have the trifoil Juyce paſs down her Throat.

Pan is also said to be the God of the Country Clowns, because Men of this condition lead lives more agreeable unto Nature, than those that live in the Cities and Courts of Princes, where Nature by too much Art is corrupted: So as the saying of the Poet (though in the sense of Love) might be here verified:

Pars minima est ipsa puella sui.

The Maid so trickt her self with Art,
That of her self she is least part.

He was held to be Lord President of the Mountains, because in the high Mountains and Hills, *Nature* lays her self most open, and Men most apt to view and contemplation.

Whereas *Pan* is said to be (next unto *Mercury*) the Messenger of the Gods, there is in that a Divine Mystery contained, for next to the Word of God, the Image of the world proclaims the Power and Wisdom Divine, as sings the Sacred Poet, *Psal.* xix. 1. *Cœli enarrant gloriam Dei, atque opera manuum ejus indicat firmamentum.* The Heavens declare the glory of God, and Firmament sheweth the Works of his Hands.

The *Nymphs*, that is, the Souls of living things take great delight in *Pan*. For these Souls are the delights or minions of *Nature*, and the direction or conduct of these *Nymphs* is with great reason attributed unto *Pan*, because the Souls of all things living do follow their natural dispositions

pas as their guides, and with infinite variety every one of them after his own fashion, doth leap, and frisk and dance with incessant motions about her. The *Satyrs* and *Sileni* also, to wit, Youth & Old-age, are some of *Pans* followers: For of all natural things, there is a lively, jocund, and (as I may say) a dancing age, and an age again that is dull, bibling and reeling. The carriages and dispositions of both which ages, to some such as *Democritus* was, (that would observe them duly,) might paradventure seem as ridiculous and deformed, as the gambols of the *Satyrs*, or the gestures of the *Sileni*.

Of those fears and terrors which *Pan* is said to be the Author, there may be this wise construction made: Namely, that Nature hath bred in every living thing a kind of care and fear, tending to the preservation of its own life and being, and to the repelling and shunning of all things hurtful. And yet *Nature* knows not how to keep a mean, but always intermixes vain and empty fears with such as are discreet and profitable: So that all things (if their insides might be seen) would appear full of *Panick* frights: But men especially in hard, fearful, and diverse times, are wonderfully infatuated with superstition, which indeed is nothing else but a *Panick* terror.

Concerning the audacity of *Pan* in challenging *Cupid* at wrestling: The meaning of it is, that Matter wants not inclination and desire to the relapsing and dissolution of the World into the old

old *Chaos*, if her malice and violence were not restrained and kept in order, by the prepotent unity and agreement of things signified by *Cupid*, or the God of Love; and therefore it was a happy turn for men, and all things else, that in their conflict *Pan* was found too weak, and overcome.

To the same effect may be interpreted his catching of *Typhon* in a Net: For howsoever there may sometimes happen vast and unwonted Tumors (as the name of *Typhon* imports) either in the Sea, or in the Air, or in the Earth, or elsewhere; yet *Nature* doth intangle it in an intricate toil, and curb and restrain in, as it were with a Chain of Adamant, the excesses and insolencies of these kind of Bodies.

But forasmuch as it was *Pan*'s good fortune to find out *Ceres* as he was Hunting, and thought little of it, which none of the other Gods could do, though they did nothing else but seek her, and that very seriously; it gives us this true and grave admonition, That we expect not to receive things necessary for life and manners from Philosophical Abstractions, as from the greater Gods; albeit they applied themselves to no other study, but from *Pan*, that is, from the discreet observation and experience, and the universal knowledg of the things of this World; whereby (oftentimes even by chance, and as it were going a Hunting) such Inventions are lighted upon.

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The quarrel he made with *Apollo* about *Musick*, and the event thereof contains a wholsome instruction, which may serve to restrain meer Reasons and Judgments with Reins of Sobriety, from boasting and glorying in their gifts. For there seems to be a twofold Harmony, or Musick; the one of Divine Providence, and the other of Human Reason. Now to the Ears of Mortals, that is to Human Judgment, the Administration of the World and Creatures therein, and the more secret Judgments of God, sound very hard and harsh; which folly, albeit it be well set out with Asses Ears; yet notwithstanding these Ears are secret, and do not openly appear, neither is it perceived or noted as a deformity by the vulgar.

Lastly, It is not to be wondred at, that there is nothing attributed unto *Pan* concerning Loves, but only of his marriage with *Echo*: For the World or Nature doth enjoy it self, and in it self all things else. Now he that loves would enjoy something, but where there is enough, there is no place left to desire. Therefore there can be no wanting love in *Pan*, or the World, nor desire to obtain any thing (seeing he is contented with himself) but only Speeches, which (if plain) may be intimated by the *Nymph Echo*, or if more quaint by *Syrinx*. It is an excellent invention that *Pan*, or the World is said to make choice of *Echo* only (above all other Speeches or Voices) for his Wife: For that alone is true Philosophy, which doth faithfully render

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the very words of the World; and it is written no otherwise than the World doth dictate, it being nothing else but the Image or reflection of it, not adding any thing of its own, but only iterates and resounds. It belongs also to the sufficiency or perfection of the World, that it begets no issue; for the World doth generate in respect of its parts, but in respect of the whole, how can it generate, seeing without it there is no Body? Notwithstanding all this, the Tale of that tatling Girl faltred upon *Pan*, may in very deed, with great Reason, be added to this Fable: For by her are represented those vain and idle Paradoxes concerning the Nature of things which have been frequent in all Ages, and have filled the World with Novelties; Fruitless, if you respect the matter; Changlings if you respect the kind, sometimes creating Pleasure, sometimes tediousness with their overmuch pratling.

PERSEUS, or WAR.

PERSEUS is said to have been employed by *Pallas*, for the destroying of *Medusa*, who was very infestuous to the Western Parts of the World, and especially about the utmost Coasts of *Hiberia*. A Monster so dire and horrid, that by her only aspect she turned men into Stones. This *Medusa* alone of all the *Gorgons* was mortal, the

the reſt not ſubject to Death. *Perſeus* therefore preparing himſelf for this noble enterpriſe, had Arms and Gifts beſtowed on him by three of the Gods: *Mercury* gave him Wings annexed to his Heels, *Pluto* a Helmet, *Pallas* a Shield and a Looking-Glaſs. Notwithſtanding (although he were thus furniſhed) he went not directly to *Meduſa*, but firſt to the *Graæ*, which by the Mothers ſide were Siſters to the *Gorgons*. Theſe *Graæ* from their Birth were Hoar-headed, reſembling old Women. They had but one only Eye, and one Tooth among them all; both which, ſhe that had occaſion to go abroad, was wont to take with her, and at her return to lay them down again. This Eye and Tooth they lent to *Perſeus*; and ſo finding himſelf throughly furniſhed for the effecting of his deſign, haſtens towards *Meduſa*. Her he found ſleeping, and yet durſt not preſent himſelf with his Face towards her, leſt he ſhould awake; but turning his head aſide, beheld her in *Pallas*'s Glaſs, and (by this means directing his blow) cut off her head; from whoſe Blood guſhing out, inſtantly came *Pegaſus*, the Flying-Horſe. Her head thus ſmote off, *Perſeus* beſtows on *Pallas* her Shield, which yet retained this vertue, that whatſoever looked upon it, ſhould become as ſtupid as a Stone, or like one Planet-ſtrucken.

This Fable ſeems to direct the preparation and order, that is to be uſed in making of War; for the more apt and conſiderate undertaking whereof, three grave and wholeſome Precepts (favouring

ring of the wisdom of *Pallas*) are to be observed.

First, That men do not much trouble themselves about the Conquest of Neighbour Nations, seeing that private possessions and Empires are enlarged by different means: For in the augmentation of private Revenues, the vicinity of mens Territories is to be considered; but in the propagation of Publick Dominions, the occasion and facility of making War, and the Fruit to be expected ought to be instead of vicinity. Certainly the *Romans*, what time their Conquests towards the West scarce reacht beyond *Liguria*, did yet in the East bring all the Provinces as far as the Mountain *Taurus* within the compass of their Arms and Command; and therefore *Perseus*, although he were bred and born in the East, did not yet refuse to undertake an expedition even to the uttermost bounds of the West.

Secondly, There must be a care had that the Motives of War be just and honourable, for that begets an alacrity, as well in the Soldiers that fight, as in the people that pay, it draws on and procures Aids, and brings many other Commodities besides. But there is no pretence to take up Arms more pious, than the suppressing of Tyranny; under which yoke, the people lose their courage, and are cast down without heart and vigor, as in the sight of *Medusa*.

Thirdly, It is wisely added, that seeing there were three *Gorgons* (by which Wars are represented) *Perseus* undertook her only that was mortal;

mortal; that is, he made choice of ſuch a kind of War as was likely to be effected and brought to a period, not purſuing vaſt and endleſs hopes.

The furniſhing of *Perſeus* with neceſſaries was that which only advanced his attempt, and drew *Fortune* to be of his ſide; for he had ſpeed from *Mercury*, concealing of his Counſels from *Orcus*, and *Providence* from *Pallas*.

Neither is it without an Allegory, and that full of matter too, that thoſe Wings of Celerity were faſtned to *Perſeus* his Heels, and not to his Ankles, to his Feet, and not to his Shoulders; becauſe ſpeed and celerity is required, not ſo much in the firſt preparations for War, as in thoſe things which ſecond and yield aid to the firſt; for there is no Error in War more frequent, than that Proſecutions and Subſidiary forces do fail to anſwer the alacrity of the firſt onſets.

Now for that Helmet which *Pluto* gave him, powerful to make men inviſible, the Moral is plain; but that twofold gift of Providence (to wit, the Shield and Looking-Glaſs) is full of Morality; for that kind of Providence, which like a Shield avoids the force of blows, is not alone needful, but that alſo by which the ſtrength and motions, and Counſels of the Enemy are deſcried, as in the Looking-Glaſs of *Pallas*.

But *Perſeus*, albeit he were ſufficiently furniſhed with aid and courage, yet was he to do one thing of ſpecial importance before he entred the Liſts

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with this Monster, and that was to have some intelligence with the *Graæ*. These *Graæ* are Treasons which may be termed the Sisters of War not descended of the same stock, but far unlike in Nobility of Birth; for Wars are generous and heroical, but Treasons are base and ignoble. Their description is elegant, for they are said to be Gray-headed, and like old Women from their Birth; by reason that Traytors are continually vext with cares and trepidation. But all their strength (before they break out into open Rebellions) consists either in an Eye or in a Tooth; for every faction alienated from any State, contemplates and bites. Besides, this Eye and Tooth is as it were common; for whatsoever they can learn and know, is delivered and carried from one to another by the hands of Faction. And as concerning the Tooth, they do all bite alike, and sing the same song; so that hear one, and you hear all. *Perseus* therefore was to deal with these *Graæ* for the love of their Eye and Tooth. Their Eye to discover, their Tooth to sow rumors and stir up envy, and to molest and trouble the Minds of men. These things therefore being thus disposed and prepared, he addresses himself to the Action of War, and sets upon *Medusa* as she slept; for a wise Captain will ever assault his Enemy, when he is unprepared and most secure; and then is their good use of *Pallas* her Glass: For most men, before it come to the push, can acutely pry into and discern their Enemies estate; but the best

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use of this Glass is in the very point of danger, that the manner of it may be so considered, as that the terror may not discourage, which is signified by that looking into this Glass with the face turned from *Medusa*.

The Monster's Head being cut off, there follow two effects. The first was, the procreation and raising of *Pegasus*, by which may be evidently understood *Fame*, that (flying thorough the World) proclaims Victory. The second is the bearing of *Medusa*'s Head in his Shield; to which there is no kind of defence for excellency comparable; for the one famous and memorable act prosperously effected and brought to pass, doth restrain the Motions and Insolencies of Enemies, and makes Envy her self silent and amazed.

ENDYMION, or a Favourite.

IT is said, that *Luna* was in love with the Shepherd *Endymion*, and in a strange and unwonted manner bewrayed her affection: For he lying in a Cave framed by Nature under the Mountain *Latmus*, she oftentimes descended from her Sphere to enjoy his company as he slept; and after she had kissed him, ascended up again. Yet notwithstanding this his idleness, and sleepy security, did not any way impair his Estate or Fortune; for *Luna* brought it so to

puls, that he alone (of all the rest of the Shepherds) had his Flock in best plight, and most fruitful.

This Fable may have reference to the nature and dispositions of Princes; for they being full of doubts, and prone to jealousie, do not easily acquaint men of prying and curious Eyes, and as it were of vigilant and wakeful dispositions, with the secret humours and manners of their life, but such rather as are of quiet and observant Natures, suffering them to do what they list without further scanting, making as if they were ignorant, and perceiving nothing but of a stupid disposition, and possest with sleep, yielding to them simple obedience, rather than slie complements: For it pleaseth Princes now and then to descend from their Thrones or Majesty (like *Luna* from the superior Orb) and laying aside their Robes of Dignity (which always to be cumbred with, would seem a kind of burthen) familiarly to converse with men of this condition, which they think may be done without danger; a quality chiefly noted in *Tiberius Cæsar*, who (of all others) was a Prince most severe; yet such only were gracious in his favour, as being well acquainted with his disposition, did yet constantly dissemble, as if they knew nothing. This was the Custom also of *Lewis* the Eleventh King of *France*, a cautious and wily Prince.

Neither is it without elegancy, that the cause of *Endymion* is mentioned in the Fable, because that it is a thing usual with such as are the favorites

vourites of Princes, to have certain pleasant retiring places, whither to invite them for recreation both of Body and Mind, and that without hurt or prejudice to their Fortunes also. And indeed these kind of Favourites are men commonly well to pass; for Princes, although peradventure they promote them not ever to Places of Honour, yet do they advance them sufficiently by their favour and countenance. Neither do they affect them thus, only to serve their own turn; but are wont to inrich them now and then with great Dignities and Bounties.

The Sister of the GIANTS, *or Fame.*

IT is a Poetical Relation, that the Giants begotten of the Earth, made War upon *Jupiter*, and the other Gods; and by the force of lightning, they were resisted and overthrown. Whereat the Earth being excitated to wrath, in revenge of her Children brought forth *Fame*, the youngest Sister of the Giants.

Illam terra parens ira irritata Deorum,
Extremam (ut perhibent) Coo Enceladoque sororem.
Progenuit ——

Provok'd by wrathful Gods, the Mother Earth
Gives *Fame*, the Giants youngest Sister, Birth.

The meaning of the Fable seems to be thus: By the Earth, is signified the Nature of the Vulgar, always swoln and malignant, and still broaching new scandals against Superiors, and having gotten fit opportunity stirs up Rebels and Seditious Persons, that with impious courage do molest Princes, and endeavour to subvert their Estates; but being suppress't, the same natural disposition of the People still leaning to the viler sort, (being impatient of Peace and Tranquility,) spread Rumours, raise malicious Slanders, repining Whisperings, infamous Libels, and others of that kind, to the detraction of them that are in Authority. So as Rebellious Actions, and Seditious Reports, differ nothing in kind and blood, but as it were in Sex only; the one sort being Masculine, and the other Feminine.

ACTEON and PENTHEUS, a Curious Man.

THE curiosity of men, in prying into Secrets, and coveting with an undiscreet desire to attain the knowledg of things forbidden is set forth by the Ancients in two other Examples: The one of *Acteon*, the other of *Pentheus*.

Acteon having unawares, and as it were by chance beheld *Diana* naked, was turned into a Stag, and devoured by his own Dogs.

An

And *Pentheus* climbing up into a Tree, with a desire to be a spectator of the hidden sacrifices of *Bacchus*, was strucken with such a kind of frensie, as that whatsoever he look't upon, he thought it always double, supposing (among other things) he saw two *Suns*, and two *Thebes*; insomuch that running towards *Thebes*, spying another *Thebes*, instantly turned back again, and so kept still running forward and backward with perpetual unrest.

Eumenidum veluti demens vidit agmina Pentheus.
Et Solem geminum, duplices se ostendere Thebas.

Pentheus amazed, doth troops of furies spie;
And Sun, and *Thebes* seem double to his eye.

The first of the Fables pertains to the secrets of Princes, the second to Divine Mysteries. For those that are near about Princes, and come to the knowledg of more secrets than they would have them, do certainly incur great hatred. And therefore, (suspecting that they are shot at, and opportunities watcht for their overthrow,) do lead their lives like Stags, fearful and full of suspition. And it happens oftentimes that their Servants, and those of their Houshold, (to insinuate into the Princes favour) do accuse them to their destruction; for against whomsoever the *Princes* displeasure is known, look how many servants that man hath, and you shall find them for the most part so many Traytors unto

him, that his end may prove to be like *Actæons*.

The other is the misery of *Pentheus*: For that by the height of Knowledg and Nature in Philosophy, having climbed, as it were, into a Tree, do with rash attempts (unmindful of their frailty) pry into the secrets of Divine Mysteries, and are justly plagued with perpetual inconstancy, and with wavering and perplexed conceits: For seeing the light of Nature is one thing, and of Grace another; it happens so to them as if they saw two *Suns*. And seeing the Actions of Life, and Degrees of the Will to depend on the Understanding, it follows that they doubt, are inconstant no less in Will than in Opinion; and so in like manner they may be said to see two *Thebes*: For by *Thebes* (seeing there was the habitation and refuge of *Pentheus*) is meant the end of Actions. Hence it comes to pass that they know not whither they go, but as distracted and unresolved in the scope of their intentions, are in all things carried about with sudden Passions of the Mind.

ORPHEUS, or Philosophy.

THE tale of *Orpheus*, though common, had never the fortune to be fitly applyed in every point. It may seem to represent the Image of Philosophy: For the Person of *Orpheus* (a man

man admirable and divine, and so excellently skilled in all kind of harmony, that with his sweet ravishing Musick he did as it were charm and allure all things to follow him) may carry a singular description of Philosophy: For the labours of *Orpheus* do so far exceed the labours of *Hercules* in dignity and efficacy, as the Works of Wisdom, excell the Works of Fortitude.

Orpheus for the love he bare to his Wife, snatcht, as it were, from him by untimely Death, resolved to go down to Hell with his Harp, to try if he might obtain her of the infernal power. Neither were his hopes frustrated: For having appeased them with the melodious sound of his voice and touch, prevailed at length so far, as that they granted him leave to take her away with him; but on this condition, that she should follow him, and he not to look back upon her, till he came to the light of the upper World; which he (impatient of, out of love and care, and thinking that he was in a manner past all danger) nevertheless violated, insomuch that the Covenant is broken, and she forthwith tumbles back again headlong into Hell. *Orpheus* falling into a deep melancholly, became a contemner of Women kind, and bequeathed himself, to a solitary life in the Desarts; where, by the same melody of his voice and Harp, he first drew all manner of wild Beasts unto him, who forgetful of their savage fierceness, and casting off the precipitate provocations of lust and fury, not caring to satiate their voracity by

hunting after prey) as at a *Theatre* in fawning and reconciled amity one towards another, standing all at the gaze about him, and attentively lend their Ears to his Musick. Neither is this all; for so great was the power and alluding force of this harmony, that he drew the Woods, and moved the very Stones to come and place themselves in an orderly and decent fashion about him. These things succeeding happily, and with great admiration for a time; at length certain *Thracian* Women (possest with the spirit of *Bacchus*) made such a horrid and strange noise with their Cornets, that the sound of *Orpheus* Harp could no more be heard, insomuch as that harmony, which was the bond of that Order and Society being dissolved, all disorder began again; and the Beasts (returning to their wonted Nature) pursued one another unto Death as before: Neither did the Trees or Stones remain any longer in their places: And *Orpheus* himself was by these Female furies torn in pieces, and scattered all over the Desart. For whose cruel Death the River *Helicon* (sacred to the Muses) in horrible indignation, hid his Head under ground, and raised it again in another place.

The meaning of this Fable seems to be thus: *Orpheus*'s Musick is of two sorts, the one appeasing the Infernal Powers, the other attracting Beasts and Trees, The first may be fitly applied to Natural Philosophy, the second to Moral or Civil Discipline.

The

The moſt noble work of Natural Philoſophy, is the Reſtitution and Renovation of things corruptible; the other (as a leſſer degree of it) the Preſervation of Bodies in their Eſtates, detaining them from diſſolution and putrefaction; and if this gift may be in Mortals, certainly it can be done by no other means than by the due and exquiſite temper of Nature, as by the melody and delicate touch of an Inſtrument. But ſeeing it is of all things moſt difficult, it is ſeldom or never attained unto; and in all likelihood for no other reaſon, more than through curious diligence and untimely impatience. And therefore Philoſophy hardly able to produce ſo excellent an effect in a penſive humour, (and that without cauſe) buſies her ſelf about Humane Objects, and by Perſuaſion and Eloquence, inſinuating the love of Vertue, Equity, and Concord in the minds of Men; draws multitudes of People to a Society, makes them ſubject to Laws, obedient to Government, and forgetful of their unbridled Affections, whilſt they give ear to Precepts, and ſubmit themſelves to Diſcipline; whence follows the building of Houſes, erecting of Towns, planting of Fields and Orchards, with Trees and the like, inſomuch that it would not be amiſs to ſay, That even thereby Stones and Woods were called together and ſetled in order. And after ſerious trial made and fruſtrated about the reſtoring of a body mortal; this care of Civil affairs follows in his due place: becauſe by a plain demonſtration of the unevitable neceſſity of death, Mens minds

are

are moved to seek Eternity by the fame and glo-of their Merits. It is also wisely said in the Fable, that *Orpheus* was averse from the love of Women and Marriage, because the delights of Wedlock and the love of Children do for the most part hinder Men from enterprising great and noble designs for the publick good, holding Posterity a sufficient step to Immortality without Actions.

Besides even the very works of Wisdom (although amongst all Humane things they do most excel) do nevertheless meet with their periods. For it happens that (after Kingdons and Commonwealths have flourished for a time) even Tumults, and Seditions, and Wars arise; in the midst of which hurly-burlies, first Laws are silent, Men return to the pravity of their Natures; Fields and Towns are wasted and depopulated; and then (if their fury continue) Learning and Philosophy must needs be dis-membred; so that a few Fragments only, and in some places will be found like the scattered Boards of Ship-wrack, so as a barbarous Age must follow; and the Streams of *Hellicon* being hid under the Earth, (untill the Vicissitude of things passing,) they break out again, and appear in some other remote Nation, though not perhaps in the same Climate.

COELUM,

COELUM, or Beginnings.

WE have it from the Poets by Tradition, that *Cœlum* was the Ancienteſt of the Gods, and that his Members of Generation were cut off by his Son *Saturn*. *Saturn* had many Children, but devoured them as ſoon as they were born; *Jupiter* only eſcapt, who being come to Man's eſtate, thruſt *Saturn* his Father into Hell, and ſo uſurped the Kingdom. Moreover he pared off his Father's Genitals with the ſame Fauſchion that *Saturn* diſmembred *Cœlum*, and caſt them into the Sea; from whence came *Venus*. Not long after this, *Jupiter* (being ſcarce ſetled and confirmed in this Kingdom) was invaded by two memorable Wars. The firſt of the *Titans*, in the ſuppreſſing of which *Sol* (who alone of all the *Titans* Favouring *Jupiter*'s ſide) took exceeding great pains. The ſecond was of the Giants, whom *Jupiter* himſelf deſtroyed with Thunderbolts: and ſo all Wars being ended, he reigned ſecure.

This Fable ſeems enigmatically to ſhew from whence all things took their beginning, not much differing from that Opinion of Philoſophers, which *Democritus* afterwards laboured to maintain, attributing Eternity to the firſt Matter, and not to the World. In which he comes ſomewhat near the truth of Divine Writ, telling us of a huge deformed

deformed Mass, before the beginning of the six days Work.

The meaning of the Fable is this: By *Celum* may be understood that vast concavity, or vaulted compass that comprehends all Matter: and by *Saturn* may be meant the matter it self, which takes from his Parent all power of generating; for the universality or whole Bulk of Matter always remains the same, neither increasing or diminishing in respect of the quality of its Nature: But by the divers agitations and motions of it, were first produced imperfect, and ill agreeing compositions of things, making as it were certain Worlds for Proofs or Essays, and so in process of time a perfect Fabrick or Structure was framed, which should still retain and keep his form. And therefore the Government of the first Age was shadowed by the Kingdom of *Saturn*, who for the frequent dissolutions and short continuances of things was aptly feigned to devour his Children. The succeeding Government was deciphered by the Reign of *Jupiter*, who confined those continual Mutations unto *Tartarus*, a place signifying Perturbation. This place seems to be all that middle place between the lower Superficies of Heaven, and the Centre of the Earth: in which all perturbations, and fragility, and mortality or corruption are frequent. During the former Generation of things in the time of *Saturn*'s Reign, *Venus* was not born: for so long as in the universality of Matter, Discord was better and more prevalent than Concord, it was necessary

necessary that there should be total dissolution or mutation, and that in the whole Fabrick. And by this kind of Generation were Creatures produced before *Saturn* was deprived of his Genitals. When this ceased, that other which wrought by *Venus*, immediately came in, consisting in setled and prevalent concord of things, so that Mutation should be only in respect of the parts, the universal Fabrick remaining whole and inviolate.

Saturn, they say, was deposed and cast down into Hell, but not destroyed and utterly extinguisht, because there was an Opinion that the World should relapse into the old *Chaos* and *interregnum* again, which *Lucretius* prayed might not happen in his time:

Quod procul à nobis flectat fortuna gubernans:
Et ratio potius quam res persuadeat ipsa.

Of guiding Providence be gracious,
That this Dooms-day be far remov'd from us;
And grant, that by us it may be expected,
Rather than on us, in our times affected.

For afterwards the World should subsist by its own quantity and power. Yet from the beginning there was no rest: for in the Celestial Regions there first followed notable Mutations, which by the power of the *Sun* (predominating over superiour Bodies) were so quieted, that the state of the World should be conserved: and afterward

terwards (in inferior Bodies) by the suppressing and dissipating of Inundations, Tempests, Winds, and general Earthquakes, a more peaceable durable Agreement and Tranquility of things followed. But of this Fable it may convertibly be said, That the Fable contains Philosophy, and Philosophy again the Fable: For we know by Faith, that all these things are nothing else but the long since ceasing and failing Oracles of Sense, seeing that both the Matter and Fabrick of the World are most truly referred to a Creator.

PROTEUS, or Matter.

THE Poets say that *Proteus* was *Neptune's* Herdsman, a grave Sire, and so excellent a Prophet, that he might well be termed thrice excellent: for he knew not only things to come, but even things past as well as present; so that besides his skill in Divination, he was the Messenger and Interpreter of all Antiquities and hidden Mysteries. The place of his abode was a huge vast Cave, where his Custom was every day at noon to count his Flock of Sea-calves, and then to go to sleep. Moreover he that desired his advice in any thing, could by no other means obtain it, but by catching him in Manacles, and holding him fast therewith; who nevertheless if he be at liberty would turn himself into all manner

of Forms and Wonders of Nature; ſometimes into Fire, ſometimes into Water, ſometimes into the ſhape of Beaſts, and the like; till at length he were reſtored to his own Form again.

This Fable may ſeem to unfold the ſecrets of Nature and the properties of *Matter*. For under the Perſon of *Proteus*, the firſt Matter (which next to God is the Ancienteſt thing) may be repreſented: For Matter dwells in the concavity of Heaven, as in a Cave.

He is *Neptune*'s bond-man, becauſe the Operations and Diſpenſations of Matter are chiefly exerciſed in liquid Bodies.

His Flock or Heard ſeems to be nothing but the ordinary *Species* of ſinſible Creatures, Plants and Metals, in which Matter ſeems to diffuſe and as it were ſpend it ſelf; ſo that after the forming and perfecting of theſe Kinds, (having ended as it were her Task,) ſhe ſeems to ſleep and take her reſt, not attempting the compoſition of any more *Species*. And this may be the Moral of *Proteus* his counting of his Flock, and of his ſleeping.

Now this is ſaid to be done, not in the morning, nor in the evening, but at noon; to wit, at ſuch time as is moſt fit and convenient for the perfecting and bringing forth of *Species* out of Matter, duly prepared and prediſpoſed, and in the middle, as it were between their beginning and declinations, which we know ſufficiently (out of the Holy Hiſtory) to be done about the time of the Creation: for then by the power of

that

that Divine Word (*Producat*,) *Matter* at the Creator's command did congregate it self (not by ambages or turnings, but instantly) to the production of its work into an Act and Constitution of *Species*. And thus far have we the Narration of *Proteus*, (free and unrestrained,) together with his Flock compleat: for the universality of things, with their ordinary Structures and Compositions of *Species*, bears the face of matter not limited and constrained, and of the Flock also of material beings. Nevertheless if any expert Minister of Nature, shall encounter Matter by main force, vexing and urging her with intent and purpose to reduce her to nothing; she contrariwise (seeing annihilation and absolute destruction cannot be effected by the Omnipotency of God) being thus caught in the strait of necessity, doth change and turn her self into divers strange Forms and Shapes of things, so that at length (by fetching a circuit as it were) she comes to a period, and (if the force continue) betakes her self to her former being. The reason of which constraint or binding, will be more facile and expedite, if matter be laid hold on by Manacles, that is, Extremities.

Now whereas it is feigned that *Proteus* was a Prophet, well skilled in three differences of Times, it hath an excellent Agreement with the Nature of Matter: for it is necessary that he that will know the Properties and Proceedings of Matter, should comprehend in his Understanding the sum of all things, which have been

which

which are, on which shall be, although no Knowledge can extend so far as to singular, and individual Beings.

MEMNON, or a Youth too forward.

THE Poets say, that *Memnon* was the Son of *Aurora*, who (adorned with beautiful Armor, and animated with popular Applause,) came to the *Trojan War*; where (in rash Boldness, hasting unto, and thirsting after Glory,) he enters into single Combat with *Achilles*, the valiantest of all the *Grecians*, by whose powerful hand he was there slain. But *Jupiter* pitying his destruction, sent Birds to modulate certain lamentable, & doleful Notes at the Solemnization of his Funeral Obsequies. Whose Statue also, (the Sun reflecting on it with his Morning-Beams) did usually, as is reported, send forth a mourful Sound.

This Fable may be applied to the unfortunate destinies of hopeful young Men, who like the Sons of *Aurora*, (puffed up with the glittering shew of vanity, and ostentation,) attempt actions above their strength, and provoke, and press the most valiant *Heroes* to combate with them; so that (meeting with their over-match) they are vanquished, and destroyed, whose untimely Death is oft accompanied with much pity and com-

commiseration. For among all the Diseases that can happen to Mortals, there is none so lamentable, and so powerful to move compassion, as the flower of Vertue cropt with too sudden a Mischance. Neither hath it been often known that men in their green years become so lothsome, and odious, as that at their Deaths either Sorrow is stinted, or Commiseration moderated; but that Lamentation and Mourning do not only flutter about their Obsequies, like those Funeral Birds; but this pitiful Commiseration doth continue for a long space, and specially by Occasions, and new Motions, and beginning of great Matters, as it were by the Morning-Rays of the *Sun*, their Passions and Desires are renewed.

TITHONUS, or Satiety.

IT is elegantly feigned, that *Tithonus* was the Paramour of *Aurora*, who (desirous to enjoy his Company) petitioned *Jupiter* that he might never die; but, (through Womanish oversight) forgetting to insert this clause in her Petition, that he might not withal grow old, and feeble; it followed, that he was only freed from the condition of Mortality; but for old Age, that came upon him in a marvellous, and miserable fashion, agreeable to the state of those who cannot die, yet every day grow weaker and weaker with Age; insomuch that *Jupiter* (

com-

commiseration of that his Misery,) did at length metamorphose him into a Grass-hopper.

This Fable seems to be an ingenious Character, or Description of Pleasure, which in the beginning, and as it were, in the morning, seems to be pleasant and delightful, that Men desire they might enjoy, and monopolize it for ever unto themselves, unmindful of that Satiety, and loathing, which (like old Age,) will come upon them before they be aware. And so at last, (when the use of Pleasure leaves Men, the Desire and Affection not yet yielding unto Death,) it comes to pass that Men please themselves only by talking, and commemorating those things which brought pleasure unto them in the flower of their Age, which may be observed in libidinous Persons, and also in Men of Military Professions; the one delighting in beastly Talk, the other boasting of their valorous Deeds, like Grass-hoppers, whose Vigour consists only in their Voice.

JUNO'S SUITOR, or Baseness.

THE Poets say, that *Jupiter*, to enjoy his lustful Delights, took upon him the shape of sundry Creatures, as of a Bull, of an Eagle, of a Swan, and of a Golden Shower; but being a Suiter to *Juno*, he came in a Form most ignoble, and base, an Object full of contempt and scorn,

resembling indeed a miserable *Cuckow*, weather-beaten with Rain and Tempest, numb'd, quaking, and half dead with Cold.

This Fable is wise, and seems to be taken out of the Bowels of Morality; the sense of it being this, That men boast not too much of themselves, thinking by ostentation of their own worth, to insinuate themselves into estimation and favour with Men. The success of such intentions being for the most part measured by the nature and disposition of those to whom Men sue for Grace; who, if of themselves they be endowed with no Gifts and Ornaments of Nature, but are only of haughty and malignant Spirits, (intimated by the Person of *Juno*,) then are Suitors to know that it is good policy to omit all kind of appearance that may any way shew their own least Praise or Worth; and that they much deceive themselves in taking any other course. Neither is it enough to shew deformity in Obsequiousness, unless they also appear even abject and base in their very Persons.

CUPID, or an Atom.

THAT which the Poets say of *Cupid*, or *Love*, cannot properly be attributed to one and the self same Person, and yet the difference is such, that (by rejecting the Con-

fusion

fusion of Persons,) the Similitude may be received.

They say, that *Love* is the ancientest of all the Gods, and of all things else except *Chaos*, which they hold to be a Contemporary with it. Now as touching *Chaos*, that by the Ancients was never dignified with Divine Honour, or with the Title of the God. And as for *Love*, they absolutely bring him in without a Father; only some are of opinion, that he came of an Egg that was laid by *Nox*, and that on *Chaos* he begat the God, and all things else. There are four things attributed to him, perpetual Infancy, Blindness, Nakedness, and an Archery. There was also another *Love*, which was the youngest of the Gods, and he, they say, was the Son of *Venus*. On this also they bestow the Attributes of the elder *Love*, as in some sort we'll apply unto him.

This Fable tends, and looks to the Cradle of *Nature*, *Love* seeming to be the appetite or desire of the first Matter, or (to speak more plain) the natural motion of the *Atom*, which is that Ancient and only Power that forms and Fashions all things out of Matter, of which there is no Parent, that is to say, no Cause, seeing every Cause is as a Parent to its effect. Of this power or virtue there can be no Cause in Nature (as for *God*, we always accept him,) for nothing was before it, and therefore no efficient Cause of it. Neither was there any thing better known to Nature, and therefore neither *Genus* nor *Form*. Wherefore whatsoever it is, positive it is, and but inex-

possible. Moreover, if the manner and proceeding of it were to be conceived, yet could it not be by any Cause, seeing that (next unto God,) it is the Cause of Causes, it self only without any Cause. And perchance there is no likelihood that the manner of it may be contained or comprehended within the narrow compass of human search. Not without reason therefore it is sought to come of an Egg which was laid by Ned. Certainly the divine Philosopher granted so much. Eccles. iii. 11. *Cuncta fecit tempestatibus suis pulchra, & mundum tradidit disputationibus eorum, ita tamen ut non inveniat homo opus, quod operatus est Deus, principio usque finem.* That is, he hath made every thing beautiful in their Seasons, also he hath set the World in their Meditations; yet Man cannot find the Work that God hath wrought, from the beginning even to the end. For the principal Law of Nature, or Power of this Desire, created (by God,) in these parcels of things, for concurring and meeting together, (from whose Repetitions and Multiplications all Variety of Creatures proceeded, and were composed,) may dazle the Eyes of Men's Understandings, and comprehended it can hardly be. The *Greek* Philosophers are observed to be very acute and diligent in searching out the material Principles of things, but in the beginnings of motion (wherein consists all the efficacy of operation,) they are negligent and weak, and in that we handle they seem to be altogether blind, and stammering; for the Opinion of the *Peripatetick* concerning

cerning the appetite of Matter, caused by privation, is in a manner nothing else but Words, which rather sound, than signifie any Reality. And those that refer it unto God, do very well, but then they leap up, they ascend not by degrees; for doubtless there is one chief Law subordinate to God, in which all natural things concur and meet, the same that in the fore-cited Scripture is demonstrated in these Words, *Opus quod operatus est Deus à principio usque ad finem*; the Work that God hath wrought from the beginning even to the end. But *Democritus*, which entred more deeply into the consideration of this point, after he had conceived an *Atom*, with some small dimension and form, he attributed unto it one only desire, or first motion, simply, or absolutely, and another comparatively, or in respect; for he thought that all things did properly tend to the Centre of the World, whereof those Bodies which were more material descend with swifter motion, and those that had less Matter, did, on the contrary, tend upward. But this Meditation was very shallow, containing less than was expedient; for neither the turning of the Celestial Bodies in a Round, nor shutting and opening of things, may seem to be reduced or applied to this beginning. And as for that opinion of *Epicurus*, concerning the casual declination and agitation of the *Atom*, it is but a mere Toy, and a plain evidence, that he was ignorant of that Point. It is therefore more apparent (than we could wish,) that this *Cupid*, or Love,

remains as yet clouded under the shades of Night. Now as concerning his Attributes; He is elegantly described with perpetual Infancy, or Childhood, because compound Bodies they last greater, and more stricken in years: Whereas the first Seeds of things, or *Atoms*, they are little, and diminute, and also in their Infancy.

He is also well feigned to be naked, because all compound Bodies, to a Man rightly judging, seem to be apparelled and cloathed, and no thing to be properly naked but the first Particles of things.

Concerning his Blindness, the Allegory is full of Wisdom; for this *Love*, or Desire (whatsoever it be) seems to have but little Providence, in directing his pace and motion by that which it perceives nearest, not unlike blind men that go by feeling: More admirable then, must that chief divine Providence be, which (from things empty and destitute of Providence, and as it were, Mind,) by a constant and fatal Law, produceth so excellent an Order and Beauty of Things.

The last Thing which is attributed to *Love*, is *Archery*; by which is meant, that his Virtue is such, as that it works upon a distant Object; because that whatsoever operates afar off, seems to shoot, as it were, an Arrow. Wherefore whosoever holds the Being both of *Atoms* and *Vacuity*, must needs infer, that the Virtue of the *Atom* reacheth to a distant Object; for if it were not so, there could be no motion at all, by reason of the interposition of *Vacuity*; but all

things

things would stand stone still, and remain immoveable.

Now as touching that other *Cupid* or *Love*, he may well be termed the youngest of the Gods, because he could have no being before the constitution of *Species*. And in his description the Allegory may be applied and traduced to Manners: Nevertheless he holds some kind of conformity with the Elder; for *Venus* doth generally stir up a desire of Conjunction and Procreation, and *Cupid* her Son doth apply this desire to some individual Nature; so that the general disposition comes from *Venus*, the more exact sympathy from *Cupid*: the one derived from Causes more near, the other from Beginnings more remote and fatal, and as it were from the elder *Cupid*, of whom every exquisite sympathy doth depend.

DIOMEDES, or Zeal.

DIOMEDES flourishing with great Fame and Glory in the *Trojan* Wars, and in high favour with *Pallas*, was by her instigated (being indeed forwarder than he should have been) not to forbear *Venus* a jot, if he encountered with her in Fight; which very boldly he performed, wounding her in the right Arm. This presumptuous Fact he carried clear for a while, and being honoured and renowned for his many

heroick

heroick Deeds, at last returned into his own Country, where finding himself hard beset with domestick Troubles, fled into *Italy*, betaking himself to the Protection of Foreigners: where in the beginning he was fortunate and royally entertained by King *Daunus* with sumptuous Gifts, raising many Statues in honour of him throughout his Dominions. But upon the very first Calamity that happned unto this Nation whereunto he was fled for Succour, King *Daunus* enters into a conceit with himself that he had entertained a wicked Guest into his Family, and a Man odious to the Goddess, and an Impugner of their Divinity, that had dared with his Sword, to assault and wound that Goddess, who, in their Religion, they held it Sacrilege so much as to touch. Therefore, that he might expiate his Countrey's Guilt, (nothing respecting the Duties of Hospitality, when the Bonds of Religion tied him with a more reverend regard) suddenly slew *Diomedes*, commanding withal that his Trophies and Statues should be abolished and destroyed. Neither was it safe to lament this miserable Destiny; but even his Companions in Arms, whilst they mourned at the Funeral of their Captain, and filled all the places with Plaints and Lamentations, were suddenly metamorphosed into Birds like unto Swans, who, when their Death approacheth, sing melodious and mournful Hymns.

This Fable hath a most rare and singular Subject: For in any of the Poetical Records, wherein the

the *Heroes* are mentioned, we find not that any one of them, besides *Diomedes*, did ever with his Sword offer Violence to any of the *Deities*. And indeed, the Fable seems in him to represent the nature and fortune of Man, who of himself, doth propound, and make this as the end of all his Actions, to worship some Divine Power, or to follow some Sect of Religion, though never so vain and superstitious, and with Force and Arms to defend the same: For although those bloody Quarrels for Religion were unknown to Ancients, (the Heathen Gods not having so much as a touch of that Jealousie, which is an Attribute of the true God,) yet the Wisdom of the Antient Times seems to be so copious and full, as that, what was not known by Experience, was yet comprehended by Meditations and Fictions. They then that endeavour to reform and convince any Sect of Religion, (though vain, corrupt, and infamous, shadowed by the Person of *Venus*,) not by the force of Argument and Doctrine, and Holiness of Life, and by the weight of Examples and Authority, but labour to extirpate and root it out by Fire and Sword, and Tortures, are encouraged, it may be, thereunto by *Pallas*; that is, by the Acrity of *Prudence*, and Severity of Judgment, by whose Vigour and Efficacy, they see into the Falsity and Vanity of these Errors. And by this their hatred of Gravity, and good zeal to Religion, they purchase to themselves great Glory and by the Vulgar (to whom nothing moderate can be grateful) are esteemed

and honoured as the only Supporters of Truth and Religion, when others seem to be lukewarm and full of Fear. Yet this Glory and Happiness doth seldom endure to the end, seeing every violent Prosperity, if it prevent not alteration by an untimely Death, grows to be unprosperous at last: For if it happen that by a change of Government, this banished and depressed Sect get strength, and so bear up again, then these zealous Men, so fierce in opposition before, are condemned, their very Names are hateful, and all their Glory ends in Obloquy.

In that *Diomedes* is said to be murthered by his Host, it gives us to understand that the difference of Religion breeds Deceit and Treachery, even among neareſt Acquaintance.

Now in that Lamentation and Mourning was not tolerated but punished; it puts us in mind, that let there be never so nefarious an Act done, yet there is some place left for Commiseration and Pity, that even those that hate Offences, should yet in Humanity commiserate Offenders, and pity their distress, it being the Extremity of Evil when Mercy is not suffered to have commerce with Misery. Yea, even in the cause as well of Religion as Impiety, many Men may be noted and observed to have been compassionate. But on the contrary the complaints and moans of *Diomedes* Followers, that is, of Men of the same Sect and Opinion, are wont to be shrill and loud, like Swans or the Birds of *Diomedes*. In whom also that part of the Allegory is excellent

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to signifie, that the last Words of those that suffer Death for Religion, like the Songs of dying Swans, do wonderfully work upon the Minds of Men, and strike and remain a long time in their Senses and Memories.

DÆDALUS, or Mechanick.

MEchanical Wisdom and Industry, and in it unlawful Science perverted to wrong ends, is shadowed by the Ancients under the Person of *Dædalus*, a Man ingenious, but execrable. This *Dædalus* (for murthering his Fellow-servant that emulated him) being banished, was kindly entertained (during his Exile) in many Cities and Princes Courts: For indeed he was the Raiser and Builder of many goodly Structures, as well in honour of the Gods, as the Beauty and Magnificence of Cities, and other publick Places, but for his Works of Mischief he is most notorious. It is he that framed the Engine which *Pasiphæ* used to satisfie her Lust in company with a Bull; so that by his wretched Industry, and pernicious Device, that Monster *Minotaur* (the destruction of so many hopeful Youths) took his accursed and infamous beginning, and studying to cover and increase one Mischief with another; for the security and preservation of this Monster he invented and built a Labyrinth, a Work for intent and use most nefarious and wicked, for Skill and Workmanship

famous

famous and excellent. Afterwards, that he might not be noted only for Works of Mischief, but be sought after as well for Remedies, as for Instruments of Destruction, he was the Author of that ingenious device concerning the Clew of Thread, by which the Labyrinth was made passable without any let. This *Dedalus* was persecuted by *Minos* with great Severity, Diligence, and Inquiry, but he always found the means to avoid and escape his Tyranny. Lastly, He taught his Son *Icarus* to fly; but the Novice, in Ostentation of this Art, soaring too high, fell into the Sea and was drowned.

The Parable seems to be thus: In the Beginning of it may be noted that kind of Envy or Emulation that lodgeth, and wonderfully swayeth and domineers amongst excellent Artificers, there being no kind of People more reciprocally tormented with bitter and deadly Hatred than they.

The Banishment also of *Dedalus* (a punishment inflicted on him against the Rules of Policy and Providence) is worth the noting: For Artificers have this Prerogative to find entertainment and welcome in all Countries, so that Exile to an excellent Workman can hardly be termed a punishment, whereas other Conditions and States of Life can scarce live out of their own Country. The admiration of Artificers is propagated and increased in foreign and strange Nations, seeing it is a hateful and inbred disposition of Men to value their own Country-men (in respect of Mechanical Works) less than Strangers.

Concerning the use of Mechanical Arts, that which follows is plain. The Life of Man is much beholden to them, seeing many Things (conducing to the Ornament of Religion, to the Grace of Civil Discipline, and to the beautifying of all Humane Kind) are extracted out of their Treasuries: And yet notwithstanding from the same *Magazine* or Store-house are produced Instruments both of Lust and Death; for to omit the Wiles of Bands, we will know how far exquisite Poisons, warlike Engines, and such like Mischiefs (the effects of Mechanical Inventions) do exceed the *Minotaur* himself in Malignity and savage Cruelty.

Moreover that of the *Labyrinth* is an excellent Allegory, whereby is shadowed the nature of Mechanical Sciences; for all such handicraft Works as are more ingenious and accurate, may be compared to a Labyrinth in respect of Subtilty and divers intricate Passages, and in other plain resemblances, which by the Eye of Judgment can hardly be guided and discerned, but only by the Line of Experience.

Neither is it impertinently added, that he which invented the intricate Nooks of the Labyrinth, did also shew the Commodity of the Clew: For Mechanical Arts are of ambiguous use, serving as well for hurt as for Remedy, and they have in a manner Power both to loose and bind themselves.

Unlawful Trades, and so by consequence, Arts themselves are often persecuted by *Minos*, that is

by Laws, which do condemn them, and prohibit Men to use them. Nevertheless they are hid and retained every where, finding lurking holes and places of Receipt, which was well observed by *Tacitus* of the Mathematicians and Figure-flingers of his time, in a thing not so much unlike; *Genus Hominum quod in Civitate nostra semper & retinebitur & vetabitur.* There is a kind of Men that will always abide in our City, though always forbidden. And yet notwithstanding unlawful and curious Arts of what kind soever, in tract of time, when they cannot perform what they promise, do fall from the good Opinion that was held of them, (no otherwise than *Icarus* fell down from the Skies,) they grow to be contemned and scorned, and so perish by too much Ostentation. And to say the Truth, they are not so happily restrained by the Reins of Law, as bewrayed by their own Vanity.

ERICTHONIUS, or Imposture.

THE Poets Fable that *Vulcan* solicited *Minerva* for her Virginity, and impatient of denial, with an inflamed desire offered her violence, but in struggling his Seed fell upon the Ground, whereof came *Erichonius*, whose Body, from the middle upward, was of a comely and apt proportion, but his thighs and Legs like the tail of an Eel, small and deformed. To which

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Monstrosity he being conscious, became the first inventor of the use of Chariots, whereby that part of his body which was well proportioned might be seen, and the other which was ugly and uncomely might be hid.

This strange and prodigious Fiction may seem to shew that Art which (for the great use it hath of Fire) is shadowed by *Vulcan*, although it labour by much striving with corporeal substances to force Nature, and to make her subject to it, (she being for her industrious Works rightly represented by *Minerva*;) yet seldom or never attains the end it aims at, but with much ado and great pains (wrestling as it were with her) comes short of its purpose, and produceth certain imperfect Births and lame Works, fair to the Eye, but weak and defective in use, which many Impostors (with much subtilty and deceit) set to view, and carry about, as it were in triumph; as may for the most part be noted in Chymical productions, and other Mechanical subtilties and novelties, especially when (rather prosecuting their intent, than reclining their Errors) they rather strive to overcome Nature by force, than sue for her Embracements by due obsequiousness and obsecvance.

DEUCALION, or Restitution.

THE Poets say, that (the People of the old World being destroyed by a general Deluge) *Deucalion* and *Pyrrha* were only left alive; who praying with fervent and zealous devotion, that they might know by what means to repair Mankind, had answer from an Oracle, that they should obtain what they desired, if taking the Bones of their Mother they cast them behind their Backs; which at first struck them with great amazement and despair, seeing (all things being defaced by the Flood) it would be an endless work to find their Mothers Sepulchre, but at length they understood that by Bones the Stones of the Earth (seeing the Earth was the Mother of all things) were signified by the Oracle.

This Fable seems to reveal a secret of Nature, and to correct an error familiar to mens conceits. For through want of knowledg men think that things may take renovation and restauration from their putrefaction and dregs, no otherwise than the *Phœnix* from the Ashes, which in no case can be admitted, seeing such kind of Materials, when they have fulfilled their periods, are unapt for the beginnings of such things: We must therefore look back to more common Principles.

NE-

NEMESIS, or the Vicissitude of things.

NEMESIS is said to be a Goddess venerable unto all, but to be feared of none but Potentates and Fortunes favourites. She is thought to be the Daughter of *Oceanus* and *Nox*. She is pourtraicted with Wings on her Shoulders, and on her Head a Coronet; bearing in her right Hand a Javelin of *Ash*, and in her left a Pitcher, with the similitudes of *Ethiopians* engraven on it; and lastly, she is described sitting on an Hart.

The Parable may be thus unfolded. Her name *Nemesis* doth plainly signifie Revenge or Retribution, her office and administration being (like a Tribune of the People) to hinder the constant and perpetual felicity of happy Men, and to interpose her word, viz. I forbid the continuance of it; that is, not only to chastise Insolency, but to intermix prosperity (though harmless and in a mean) with the Vicissitudes of adversity, as if it were a custom, that no mortal Man should be admitted to the Table of the Gods but for sport. Truly when I read that Chapter, wherein *Caius Plinius* hath collected his misfortunes and miseries of *Agustus Cæsar*, whom of all Men I thought the most happy, who had also a kind of Art to use and enjoy his Fortune, and

in whose mind might be noted neither pride, nor lightness, nor niceness, nor disorder, nor melancholly, (as that he had appointed a time to die of his own accord,) I then deemed this Goddess to be great and powerful, to whose Altar so worthy a Sacrifice as this was drawn.

The Parents of this Goddess were *Oceanus* and *Nox*, that is, the Vicissitude of things and Divine Judgment obscure and secret: For the alteration of things are aptly represented by the Sea, in respect of the continual Ebbing and Flowing of it, and hidden Providence is well set forth by the Night: For even the Nocturnal *Nemesis* (seeing Human judgment differs much from Divine) was seriously observed by the Heathen.

Virgil. Æneid. lib. 2.

Cadit & Riphæus justissimus unus,
Qui fuit in Teucris, & servantissimus æqui.
Diis aliter visum.

That day, by Greekish force, was *Riphæus* slain
So just and strict observer of the Law,
As *Troy* within her Walls, did not contain
A better Man: Yet God then good it saw.

She is described with Wings, because the changes of things are so sodden, as that they are seen, before foreseen: For in the Records of all Ages, we find it for the most part true, that great Potentates, and wise Men, have perished by those misfortunes which they most contemned; as may be obser-

observed in *Marcus Cicero*, who being admonished by *Decius Brutus* of *Octavius Cæsar*'s hypocritical friendship and hollow-heartedness towards him, returns this answer, *Te autem, mi Brute, sicut debeo, amo, quod istud quicquid est vulgarium me scire voluisti*: I must ever acknowledge my self (Dear *Brutus*) beholden to thee, in love, for that thou hast been so careful to acquaint me with that which I esteem but as a needless trifle to be doubted.

Nemesis is also adorned with a Coronet, to shew the envious and malignant disposition of the vulgar, for when Fortunes Favourits and great Potentates come to ruine, then do the common People rejoyce, setting, as it were, a Crown upon the head of Revenge.

The Javelin in her right hand points at those whom she actually strikes and pierceth through.

And before those, whom she destroys not in their calamity and misfortune, she ever presents that black and dismal spectacle in her left hand: for questionless to Men sitting as it were upon the Pinacle of Prosperity, the thoughts of Death, and painfulness of sickness and misfortunes, perfidiousness of Friends, treachery of Foes, change of Estate, and such like, seem as ugly to the Eye of their Meditations, as those *Ethiopians* pictured in *Nemesis* her Pitcher. *Virgil* in describing the Battel of *Actium*, speaks thus elegantly of *Cleopatra*,

Regina in mediis patrio vocat agmina sistro
Nec dum etiam geminos à tergo respicit angues.

The Queen amidst this hurly-burly stands,
And with her Countrey Timbrel calls her Bands;
Not spying yet, where crawl'd behind her Back,
Two deadly Snakes with Venom speckled black.

But not long after, which way soever she turned, Troops of *Ethiopians* were still before her Eyes.

Lastly, It is wisely added, That *Nemesis* rides upon an *Hart*, because a *Hart* is a most lively Creature. And alheit, it may be, that such as are cut off by Death in their Youth prevent and shun the power of *Nemesis*; yet doubtless such, whose prosperity and power continue long, are made subject unto her, and lie as it were trodden under her Feet.

ACHELOUS, or Battel.

IT is a Fable of Antiquity, that when *Hercules* and *Achelous* as Rivals contended for the Marriage of *Deianira*, the matter drew them to combate, wherein *Achelous* took upon him many

by divers shapes, for so was it in his power to do, and amongst others, transforming himself into the likeness of a furious wild Bull, assaults *Hercules* and provokes him to fight. But *Hercules*, for all this, sticking to his old Humane Form, courageously encounters him, and so the Combat goes roundly on. But this was the event, That *Hercules* tore away one of the Bull's Horns, wherewith he being mightily daunted and grieved, to ransome his Horn again, was contented to give *Hercules*, in exchange thereof, the *Amalthean* Horn, or *Cornu Copiæ*.

This Fable hath relation unto the Expeditions of War, for the Preparations thereof on the defensive part (which expresst in the Person of *Achelous*) is very diverse and uncertain. But the invading Party is most commonly of one sort, and that very single, consisting of an Army by Land, or perhaps of a Navy by Sea. But for a King that in his own Territory, expects an Enemy, his occasions are infinite. He fortifies Towns, he assembles Men out of the Countreys and Villages, he raiseth Citadels, he builds and breaks down Bridges, he disposeth Garrisons, and placeth Troops of Soldiers on Passages of Rivers, on Ports, on Mountains, and Ambushes in Woods, and is buried with a multitude of other Directions, insomuch, that every day he prescribeth new Forms and Orders; and then at last having accommodated all things compleat for defence, he then rightly represents the form and manner of a fierce fighting Bull. On the

other side, the Invader his greatest care is, the fear to be distressed for Victuals in an Enemy Country; and therefore affects chiefly to hasten on Battel: For if it should happen, that after a Field-fight, he prove the Victor, and as it were break the Horn of the Enemy, then certainly this follows, that his Enemy being stricken with terror, and abated in his Reputation, presently betrays his weakness, and seeking to repair his loss, retires himself to some strong hold, abandoning to the Conquerour the spoil and sack of his Country and Cities: which may well be termed a Type of the *Amalthean* Horn.

DIONYSUS, or Passions.

THEY say that *Semele*, *Jupiter*'s Sweet-heart, having bound her Paramour, by an irrevocable Oath, to grant her one Request which she would require, desired that he would accompany her in the same form wherein he accompanied *Juno*: Which he granting, (as not able to deny) it came to pass, that the miserable Wench was burnt with Lightning. But the Infant which she bare in her Womb, *Jupiter*, the Father, took out, and kept it in a gash which he cut in his Thigh, till the Months were compleat, that it should be born. This burthen made *Jupiter* somewhat to limp, whereupon the Child (because it was heavy and troublesome to its Father,

while

while it lay in his Thigh) was called *Dionysus*. Being born, it was committed to *Proserpina* for some years to be Nurst, and being grown up, it had such a Maiden face, as that a Man could hardly judge whether it were a Boy or Girl. He was dead also, and buried for a time, but afterward revived: Being but a Youth, he invented and taught the planting and dressing of Vines, the making also, and use of Wine; for which, becoming famous and renowned, he subjugated the Wold, even to the uttermost bounds of *India*. He rode in a Chariot drawn with Tygers. There denced about him certain deformed Hobgoblins called *Gobali*, *Aeratus*, and others, yea, even the Muses also were some of his Followers. He took to Wife *Ariadne*, forsaken and left by *Theseus*. The Tree sacred unto him was the *Ivy*. He was held the Inventor and Institutor of Sacrifices, and Ceremonies; and full of Corruption and Cruelty. He had power to strike Men with fury and madness; for it is reported, That at the celebration of his Orgies, two famous Worthies, *Pentheus* and *Orpheus*, were torn in pieces by certain frantick Women, the one because he got upon a Tree to behold their Ceremonies in these Sacrifices; the other for making melody with his Harp: And for his Gods, they are in a manner the same with *Jupiter*'s.

There is such excellent morally couchet in this Fable, as that Moral Philosophy affords not better; for under the Person of *Bacchus* is described the nature of Affection, Passion, or Perturbation,

the

the Mother of which (though never so hurtful) is nothing else but the Object of apparent good in the Eyes of Appetite. And it is always conceived in an unlawful desire, rashly propounded and obtained, before well understood and considered; and when it begins to grow, the Mother of it, which is the desire of apparent good by too much fervency, is destroyed and perisheth. Nevertheless (whilest yet it is an imperfect Embrio) it is nourished and preserved in the Humane Soul, (which is as it were a Father unto it, and represented by *Jupiter*,) but especially in the inferior part thereof, as in a Thigh, where also it causeth so much trouble and vexation, as that good determinations and actions are much hindred and lamed thereby; and when it comes to be confirmed by consent and habit, and breaks out as it were into act, it remains yet a while with *Proserpina*, as with a Nurse, that is, it seeks corners and secret places, and as it were, Caves under Ground, until (the Reigns of Shame and Fear being laid aside in a pampered and secure mind) it either takes the pretext of some Vertue, or becomes altogether impudent and shameless. And it is most true, that every vehement Passion is of a doubtful Sex, as being Masculine in the first Motion, but Feminine in Prosecution.

It is an excellent Fiction that of *Bacchus* his reviving; for Passions do sometimes seem to be in a dead sleep, and as it were utterly extinct, but we should not think them to be so indeed,

no,

no, though they lay, as it were, in their Grave; for let there be but matter and opportunity offered, and you shall see them quickly to revive again.

The invention of Wine is wittily ascribed unto him; every affection being ingenious and skilful in finding out that which brings nourishment unto it; and indeed, of all things known to Men, Wine is most powerful and efficacious to excite and kindle Passions of what kind soever, standing in a manner common Nurse to them all.

Again, his conquering of Nations, and undertaking remote Expeditions is an elegant device; for Desire never rests content with what it hath, but with an infinite and unsatiable Appetite still covets and gapes after more.

His Chariot also is well said to be drawn by Tygers; for as soon as any affection shall from going afoot, be advanced to ride in a Chariot, and shall captivate reason, and lead her in a triumph, it grows cruel, untamed, and fierce against whatsoever withstands or opposeth it.

It is worth the noting also, that those ridiculous Hobgoblins are brought in dancing about his Chariot; for every Passion doth cause, in the Eys, Face and Gesture, certain undecent, and ill-seeming, apish, and deformed motions; so that they who in any kind of Passion, as in anger, arrogancy, or love, seem glorious and brave in their own Eyes, do yet appear to others misshapen and ridiculous.

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In that the Muses are said to be of his company, it shews that there is no affection whilst which is not soothed by some Art, wherein the indulgence of Wits doth derogate from the glory of the Muses, who (when they ought to be the Mistress of Life) are made the Waiting maids of Affections.

Again, when *Bacchus* is said to have loved *Ariadne*, that was rejected by *Theseus*; it is an Allegory of special observation; for it is most certain, that Passions always covet and desire that which Experience forsakes; and they all know (who have paid dear for serving and obeying their Lust) that whether it be honour, or riches, or delight, or glory, or knowledge, or any thing else which they seek after, yet are they but things cast off, and by divers Men, in all Ages, after experience had utterly rejected and loathed.

Neither is it without a Mystery, that the *Ivy* was sacred to *Bacchus*; for the Application holds, First, In that the *Ivy* remains green in Winter. Secondly, In that it sticks to, embraceth, and overtoppeth so many divers Bodies, as Trees, Walls, and Edifices. Touching the first, every Passion doth by resistance and reluctation, and as it were by an *Antiperistasis* (like the *Ivy* of the cold Winter,) grow fresh and lusty. And as for the other, every predominate Affection doth again (like the *Ivy*) embrace and limit all Humane Actions and Determinations, adhering and cleaving fast unto them.

Neither is it a wonder, that superstitious Rites and Ceremonies were attributed unto *Bacchus*, seeing every giddy headed humour keeps in a manner Revel-rout in false Religions; or that the cause of Madness should be ascribed unto him, seeing every affection is by Nature a short fury, which (if it grow vehement, and become habitual) concludes in Madness.

Concerning the rending and dismembring of *Penthew* and *Orpheus*, the Parable is plain, for every prevalent affection is outrageous and severe, and against curious iniquiry, and wholsome and free admonition.

Lastly, That confusion of *Jupiter* and *Bacchus*, their Persons may be well transferred to a Parable, seeing noble and famous Acts, and remarkable and glorious Merits, do sometimes proceed from Vertue, and well ordered Reason and Magnanimity, and sometimes from a secret Affection, and hidden Passion, which are so dignified with the celebrity of Fame and Glory, that a Man can hardly distinguish between the Acts of *Bacchus*, and the Gests of *Jupiter*.

ATALANTA, or Gain.

ATALANTA, who was reputed to excel in swiftness, would needs challenge *Hippomenes* at a match in running. The conditions of the prize were these; That if *Hippomenes* won the Race, he should espouse *Atalanta*; if he were out-run, that then he should forfeit his Life. And in the Opinion of all, the victory was thought assured of *Atalanta's* side, being famous, as she was, for her matchless and unconquerable speed, whereby she had been the bane of many. *Hippomenes* therefore bethinks him how to deceive her by a trick, and in that regard provides three Golden Apples or Balls, which he purposely carried about him. The Race is begun, and *Atalanta* gets a good start before him. He seeing himself thus cast behind, being mindful of his device, throws one of his Golden Balls before her, and yet not outright, but somewhat of the one side, both to make her linger, and also to draw her out of the right course: She, out of a Womanish desire, (being thus enticed with the beauty of the Golden Apple) leaving her direct Race, runs aside, and stoops to catch the Ball, *Hippomenes* the while holds on his course, getting thereby a great start, and leaves her behind him: But she by her own natural swiftness, recovers her lost time, and gets before him

him again. But *Hippomenes* still continues his sleight, and both the second and third time cast out his Balls, those inticing delays; and so by craft, and not by his activity, wins the Race and Victory.

This Fable seems Allegorically to demonstrate a notable conflict between Art and Nature; for Art (signified by *Atalanta*) in its work (if it be not letted and hindred) is far more swift than Nature, more speedy in pace, and sooner attains the end it aims at, which is manifest almost in every effect: As you may see it in Fruit-trees, whereof those that grow of a Kernel are long e're they bear, but such as are grafted on a Stock a great deal sooner. You may see it in Clay, which in the generation of Stones, is long ere it become hard; but in the burning of Bricks, is very quickly affected. Also in Moral Passages you may observe, that it is a long time e're (by the benefit of Nature) sorrow can be asswaged, and comfort attained; whereas Philosophy (which is, as it were, Art of Living) tarries not the leisure of time, but doth it instantly, and out of hand; and yet this Prerogative and singular agility of Art is hindred by certain Golden Apples, to the infinite prejudice of Humane proceedings: For there is not any one *Art* or *Science* which constantly perseveres in a true and lawful course, till it come to the proposed End or Mark; but ever and anon makes stops after good beginnings, leaves the Race, and turns aside to Profit and Commodity, like *Atalanta*.

Declinat

Declinat cursus, aurumque volubile tollit.

Who doth her Course forsake,
The Rolling Gold doth take.

And therefore it is no wonder that Art and not the power to conquer Nature, and by Pact or Law of Conquest, to kill and destroy her; but on the contrary it falls out, that Art becomes subject to Nature, and yields the Obedience, as a Wife the Husband.

PROMETHEUS, or the State of Man.

THE Ancients deliver, that *Prometheus* made a Man of Clay, mixt with certain parcels taken from divers Animals, who studying to maintain this his Work by Art, (that he might not be accounted a founder only, but Propagator of Humane kind) stole up to Heaven with a bundle of Twigs, which he kindled at the Chariot of the Sun, came down again, and communicated it with Men: and yet they say, (That notwithstanding this excellent work of his,) he was requited with Ingratitude, in a treacherous Conspiracy: For they accused both him and his Invention to *Jupiter*, which was not so taken as was meet it should, for the Information was plea-

sing

sing to *Jupiter*, and all the Gods. And therefore in a merry Mood, granted unto Men, not only the use of Fire, but perpetual youth also, a Boon most acceptable and desirable. They being, as it were, overjoyed, did foolishly lay this Gift of the Gods upon the back of an Ass, who being wonderfully oppress'd with Thirst, and near a Fountain, was told by a Serpent (which had the custody thereof) that he should not drink, unless he would promise to give him the Burthen that was on his Back. The silly Ass accepted the condition, and so the restauration of Youth (sold for a draught of Water) past from Men to Serpents. But *Prometheus*, full of Malice, being reconciled unto Men, after they were frustrated of their Gift, but in a Chafe yet with *Jupiter*, feared not to use deceipt in Sacrifice: For having killed two Bulls, and in one of their Hides wrapp'd up the Flesh and Fat of them both, and in the other only the Bones, with a great shew of religious Devotion, gave *Jupiter* his choice, who (detesting his Fraud and Hypocrisie, but taking an occasion of Revenge) chose that which was stopp'd with Bones, and so turning to Revenge (when he saw that the Insolency of *Prometheus* would not be repressed, but by laying some grievous Affliction upon Mankind, in the forming of which, he so much bragged and boasted) commanded *Vulcan* to frame a goodly beautiful Woman, which being done, every one of the Gods bestowed a Gift on her; whereupon she was called *Pandora*. To this Woman they gave, in

her hand, a goodly Box full of all Miseries and Calamities, only in the bottom of it they put *Hope*; with this Box she comes first to *Prometheus*, thinking to catch him, if peradventure he should accept it at her hands, and so open it; which he nevertheless, with good Providence and Foresight refused. Whereupon she goes to *Epimetheus* (who, though Brother to *Prometheus*, yet was of a much differing Disposition) and offers this Box unto him, who without delay took it, and rashly opened it; but when he saw that all kind of Miseries came flattering about his Ears, being wise too late, with great speed and earnest endeavour clapt on the Cover, and so with much adoe retained *Hope* sitting alone in the bottom: at last *Jupiter* laying many and grievous Crimes to *Prometheus* his charge (as that he had stoln Fire from Heaven, that in contempt of his Majesty, he sacrificed a Bull's Hide stuff'd with Bones, that he scornfully rejected his Gift, and besides all this that he offered violence to *Pallas*) cast him into Chains, and doom'd him to perpetual Torments: and by *Jupiter*'s Command, was brought to the Mountain *Caucasus*, and there bound fast to a Pillar that he could not stir; there came an Eagle also, that every day sat tyring upon his Liver and wasted it, but as much as was eaten in the day, grew again in the Night, that Matter for Torment to work upon might never decay. But yet they say there was an end of this Punishment. For *Hercules* crossing the Ocean in a Cup, which the Sun gave him, came to *Caucasus*, and

and let *Prometheus* at liberty, by shooting the Eagle with an Arrow. Moreover in some Nations there were instituted in the honour of *Prometheus*, certain Games of Lamp-bearers, in which they that strived for the Prize, were wont to carry Torches lighted; which who so suffered to go out, yielded the Place and Victory to those that followed, and so cast back themselves; so that whosoever came first to the Mark with his Torch burning, got the Prize.

This Fable demonstrates and presseth many true and grave Speculations, wherein some things have been heretofore well noted, others not so much as touched.

Prometheus doth clearly and elegantly signifie *Providence*. For in the Universality of Nature, the Fabrick and Constitution of Man only was by the Ancients pick'd out and chosen, and attributed unto *Providence*, as a peculiar Work. The reason of it seems to be, not only in that the Nature of Man is capable of a mind and understanding, which is the Seat of *Providence*; and therefore it would seem strange and incredible, that the reason and mind should so proceed and flow from dumb and deaf Principles, as that it should necessarily be concluded, the Soul of Man to be endued with Providence, not without the example, intention, and stamp of a greater Providence. But this also is chiefly propounded, that man is as it were the Centre of the World, in respect of final Causes, so that if Man were not in Nature, all things would seem to stray and wander without purpose, and like

scattered Branches (as they say) without inclinations to their end: For all things attend on Man, and he makes use of, and gathers Fruit from all Creatures; For the revolutions and periods of Stars make both for the distinctions of Times, and the distribution of the World's light. *Meteors* also are referred to presages of Tempests; and Winds are ordained, as well for Navigation, as for turning of Mills, and other Engines. And Plants, and Animals of what kind soever, are useful either for Men's Houses, and places of shelter, or for Rayment, or for Food, or Medicine, or for ease of Labour, or in a word, for delight and solace; so that all things seem to work, not for themselves, but for Man.

Neither is it added without consideration that certain Particles were taken from divers living Creatures, and mix'd and tempered with that clayey Mass, because it is most true that of all things comprehended within the compass of the Universe, Man is a thing most mix'd and compounded, insomuch that he was well termed by the Ancients, a little World; for although the *Chymicks* do, with too much Curiosity, take and wrest the elegancy of this Word (*Microcosm*) to the Letter, contending to find in Man all Minerals, all Vegetables and the rest, or any thing that holds proportion with them; yet this proposition remains sound and whole, that the Body of Man, of all material Beings is found to be most compounded, and most organical, whereby it is endued and furnished with most admirable

Vertues

Vertues and Faculties. And as for simple Bodies, their Powers are not many, though certain and violent, as existing without being weakened, diminished or stented by mixture; for the multiplicity and excellency of Operation have their residence in mixture and composition, and yet nevertheless, Man in his Originals seems to be a thing unarmed, and naked, and unable to help it self, as needing the aid of many things; therefore *Prometheus* made haste to find out Fire, which suppeditates and yields comfort and help in a manner, to all humane Wants and Necessities: so that if the Soul be the Form of Forms, and if the Hand be the Instrument of Instruments; Fire deserves well to be called the Succour of Succours, or the Help of Helps, which infinite ways affords aid and assistance to all Labours and Mechanical Arts, and to the Sciences themselves.

The manner of stealing this fire is aptly described, even from the nature of things: It was, they say, by a bundle of Twigs held to touch the Chariot of the Sun: For Twigs are used in giving Blows or Stripes, to signifie clearly, that Fire is engendred by the violent percussion and mutual collision of Bodies; by which their material Substances are attenuated and set in Motion, and prepared to receive the heat of influence of the Heavenly Bodies; and so in a clandestine manner, and as it were by stealth, may be said to take and snatch Fire from the Chariot of the Sun.

There follows next a remarkable part of the Parable, that Men instead of Gratulation and

Thanksgiving, were angry, and expostulated the Matter with *Prometheus*, insomuch that they accused both him and his invention unto *Jupiter*, which was so acceptable to him, that he augmented their former Commodities with a new Bounty. Seems it not strange, that Ingratitude towards the Author of a Benefit (a Vice that in a manner contains all other Vices) should find such Approbation and Reward? No, it seems to be otherwise: For the meaning of the Allegory is this, that Men's out-cries upon the defects of Nature and Art, proceed from an excellent disposition of the Mind, and turn to their Good; whereas the silencing of them is hateful to the Gods, and redounds not so much to their Profit: For they that infinitely extol Humane Nature, or the knowledge they possess, breaking out into a prodigal admiration of that they have and enjoy, adoring also those Sciences they profess, would have them be accounted perfect; they do first of all shew little Reverence to the divine Nature, by equalizing, in a manner, their own Defects with God's Perfection: Again, they are wonderfully injurious to Men, by imagining they have attained the highest step of knowledge, (resting themselves contented) seek no further. On the contrary, such as bring Nature and Art to the Bar with Accusations, and Bills of Complaint against them, are indeed of more true and moderate Judgments: For they are ever in Action, seeking always to find out new Inventions. Which makes me much to wonder at the foolish

foolish and inconsiderate Dispositions of some Men, who (making themselves Bond-slaves to the Arrogancy of a few) have the Philosophy of the Peripateticks (containing only a Portion of *Grecian* Wisdom, and that but a small one neither) in so great esteem, that they hold it, not only an unprofitable, but a suspicious, and almost heinous thing, to lay any imputation of Imperfection upon it. I approve rather of *Empedocles* his Opinion (who like a Mad-man,) and of *Democritus* his Judgment, who with great moderation complained how that all things were involved in a Mist) that we knew nothing, that we discerned nothing, that Truth was drowned in the depths of Obscurity, and that false things were wonderfully joined and intermix'd with true. (as for the new Academy that exceeded all measure) than of the confident and pronunciative School of *Aristotle*. Let Men therefore be admonished, that by acknowledging the Imperfection of Nature and Art, they are grateful to the Gods, and shall thereby obtain new Benefits and greater Favours at their bountiful Hands, and the Accusation of *Prometheus* their Author and Master (though bittter and vehement) will conduce more to their Profit, than to be effuse in the congratulation of his Invention: For in a Word, the opinion of having enough, is to be accounted one of the greatest Causes of having too little.

Now as touching the kind of Gift which Men are said to have received in reward of their Ac-

cusation (to wit, an ever-fading Flower of Youth) it is to shew, that the Ancients seemed not to despair of attaining the skill by Means and Medicines, to put off Old Age, and to prolong Life, but this to be numbered rather among such things (having been once happily attained unto) are now through Men's Negligence and Carelessness, utterly perished and lost, than among such as have been always denied and never granted: For they signifie and shew, that by affording the true use of Fire, and by a good and stern accusation and conviction of the Errors of Art, the Divine Bounty is not wanting unto Men in the obtaining of such Gifts, but Men are wanting to themselves in laying this Gift of the Gods upon the back of a silly slow-paced Ass, which may seem to be Experience, a stupid thing, and full of Delay: From whose leisurely and Snail-like pace, proceeds that complaint of Life's brevity, and Arts length. And to say the Truth, I am of this opinion, that those two Faculties, *Dogmatical* and *Emperical*, are not as yet well joined and coupled together, but as new Gifts of the Gods imposed either upon Philosophical Abstractions, as upon a flying Bird, or upon slow and dull Experience, as upon an Ass. And yet methinks, I would not entertain an ill conceit of this Ass, if it meet not for the accidents of Travel and Thirst: For I am persuaded, that who so constantly goes on, by the conduct of Experience as by a certain Rule and Method, and not covets to meet with such Experiments by the way, as conduce

condite either to gain or ostentation, (to obtain which, he must be fain to lay down, and sell this Buttshen) may prove no unfit Porter to bear this new addition of divine Munificence.

Now, in that this Gift is said to pass from Men to Serpents, it may seem to be added to the Fable for ornament sake in a manner, unless it were inserted to shame Men, that having the use of that celestial Fire, and of so many Arts, are not able to get unto themselves such things as Nature it self bestows upon many other Creatures.

But that sudden reconciliation of Men to *Prometheus*, after they were frustrated of their hopes, contains a profitable and wise Note, shewing the levity and temerity of Men in new Experiments; for if they have not present Success, answerable to their expectation, with too sudden haste desist from that they began, and with precipitancy returning to their former experiments, are reconciled to them again.

The state of Man, in respect of Arts, and such things as concern the Intellect, being now described, the Parable passeth to Religion: For after the planting of Arts, follows the setting of Divine Principles, which Hypocrisie hath overspread and polluted. By that twofold Sacrifice therefore is elegantly shadowed out the Persons of a true Religious Man, and an Hypocrite. In the one is contained Fatness, which (by reason of the Inflammation and Fumes thereof,) is called, *The Portion of Gods*, by which his Affection and Zeal (tending to God's Glory, and ascending to-

towards Heaven) is signified. In him also are contained the Bowels of Charity, and in him is found that good and wholesome Flesh. Whereas in the other, there is nothing but dry and naked Bones; which nevertheless, do stuff up the Hide, and make it appear like a fair and goodly Sacrifice: By this may be well meant those external and vain Rites, and empty Ceremonies by which Men do oppress and fill up the sincere Worship of God, things composed rather for ostentation, than any way conducing to true Piety. Neither do they hold it sufficient to offer such mock-Sacrifices unto God, except they also lay them before him, as if he had chosen and bespoke them. Certainly the Prophet in the person of God, doth thus expostulate concerning this Choice, *Isa.* 58. 5. *Num tandem hoc est illud Jejunium quod* ELEGI, *ut homo animam suam in diem unum affligat, & caput instar juncæ demittat?* Is it such a Fast, that I have chosen, that a man should afflict his Soul for a day, and to bow down his head like a Bulrush?

Having now touch'd the State of Religion, the Parable converts it self to the Manners and Conditions of humane Life. And it is a common, but apt interpretation, by *Pandora* to be meant pleasure and voluptuousness; which (when the civil Life is pamper'd with too much Art, and Culture, and Superfluity,) is ingendred, as it were, by the efficacy of Fire, and therefore the work of Voluptuousness is attributed unto *Vulcan*, who also himself doth represent Fire. From this

thirdly infinite Miseries, together with too late repentance, proceed, and overflow the Minds, and Bodies, and Fortunes of Men, and that not only in respect of particular Estates, but even over Kingdoms and Commonwealths; for from this Fountain have Wars, Tumults, and Tyrannies derived their Original.

But it would be worth the Labour to consider how elegantly and proportionably this Fable doth delineate two Conditions, or (as I may say) two Tables or Examples of humane Life, under the Persons of *Prometheus*, or *Epimetheus*; for they that are of *Epimetheus* his Sect, are improvident, not foreseeing what may come to pass hereafter; esteeming that best which seems most sweet for the present; whence it happens, that they are overtaken with many miseries, difficulties, and calamities, and so lead their Lives almost in perpetual affliction; but yet notwithstanding they please their Fancy, and out of ignorance of the passages of things, do entertain many vain hopes in their mind, whereby they sometimes (as with sweet Dreams) solace themselves, and sweeten the Miseries of their Life. But they that are *Prometheus* his Scholars, are Men endued with Prudence, foreseeing things to come, warily shunning, and avoiding many Evils and Misfortunes. But to these their good Properties, they have also annexed, that they deprive themselves, and defraud their *Genius* of many lawful Pleasures, and divers Recreations, and (which is worse,) they vex, and torment them-

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themselves with cares and troubles, and intestine fears, for being chained to the Pillar of Necessity, they are afflicted with innumerable cogitations, (which, because they are very swift, may be fitly compared to an Eagle,) and those griping, and as it were, gnawing and devouring the Liver, unless sometimes, as it were, by Night, it may be, they get a little recreation, and ease of Mind; but so, as that they are again suddenly assaulted with fresh anxieties and fears.

Therefore this Benefit happens to but a very few of either condition, that they should retain the Commodities of Providence, and free themselves from the Miseries of Care and Perturbation; neither indeed can any attain unto it, but by the assistance of *Hercules*, that is, Fortitude, and Constancy of Mind, which is prepared for every Event, and armed in all Fortunes, foreseeing without Fear, enjoying without loathing, and suffering without Impatience. It is worth the noting also, that this Vertue was not natural to *Prometheus*, but adventitial, and from the indulgence of another; for no in-bred and natural Fortitude is able to encounter with these Miseries. Moreover, this Vertue was received and brought unto him from the remotest part of the *Ocean*, and from the *Sun*, that is, from Wisdom, as from the Sun; and from the Meditation of Inconstancy, or of the Waters of humane Life, as from the sailing upon the Ocean; [which two *Virgil* hath well conjoyned in these Verses;

Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas
Quique metus omnes, & inexorabile fatum
Subjecit pedibus, strepitumq; Acherontis avari.

Happy is he that know the causes of things:
And that with dauntless courage treads upon
All Fear and Fates, relentless Threatnings,
And greedy Throat of roaring *Acheron*.

Moreover, it is elegantly added for the consolation and confirmation of Men's Minds, that this noble *Hero* cross'd the Ocean in a Cup or Pan, lest peradventure, they might too much fear that the straits and frailty of their Nature will not be capable of this Fortitude and Constancy. Of which very thing *Seneca* well conceived, when he said, *Magnum est habere simul fragilitatem hominis, & securitatem Dei*. It is a great matter for humane Frailty and Divine Security to be one and the self-same time, in one and the self-same Subject.

But now we are to step back a little again to that, which by premeditation past over, lest a Breach should be made in those things that were so link'd together. That therefore which I could touch here, is that last Crime imputed to *Prometheus*, about seeking to bereave *Minerva* of her Virginity: For questionless, it was this hainous offence that brought that punishment of devouring his Liver, upon him; which is nothing else but to shew, that when we are puft

up

up with too much Learning and Science, they go about oftentimes to make even Divine Oracles subject to Sense and Reason; whence most certainly follows a continual distraction, and restless griping of the Mind; we must therefore with a sober and humble Judgment distinguish between Humanity and Divinity, and between the Orders of Sense, and the Mysteries of Faith, unless an Heretical Religion, and a commentitious Philosophy be pleasing unto us.

Lastly, it remains that we say something of the Games of *Prometheus*, performed with burning Torches, which again hath reference to Arts and Sciences, as that Fire, in whose Memory, and Celebration, these Games were instituted, and it contains in it a most wise admonition, that the perfection of Sciences is to be expected from Succession, not from the nimbleness and promptness of one only Author; for they that are nimblest in Course, and strongest in Contention, yet happily have not the luck to keep Fire still in their Torch; seeing it may be as well extinguished by running too fast, as by going too slow. And this running and contending with Lamps, seems long since to be intermitted, seeing all Sciences seem even now to flourish most in their first Authors, *Aristotle*, *Galen*, *Euclid*, and *Ptolomy*; Succession having neither effected, nor almost attempted any great Matter. It were therefore to be wished, that these Games, in honour of *Prometheus*, or

Humane

Humane Nature were again restored, and that Matters should receive success by Combate and Emulation, and not hang upon any one man's sparkling and shaking Torch. Men therefore are to be admonished to rouse up their Spirits, and try their strengths and turns, and not refer all to the Opinions and Brains of a few.

And thus have I delivered that which I thought good to observe out of this so well known, and common Fable; and yet I will not deny, but that there may be some things in it, which have an admirable consent with the Mysteries of Christian Religion, and especially that Sailing of *Hercules* in a Cup, (to set *Prometheus* at liberty,) seems to represent an image of the Divine Word, coming in Flesh, as in a frail Vessel, to redeem Man from the Slavery of *Hell*. But I have interdicted my Pen all liberty in this kind, lest I should use strange Fire at the Altar of the Lord.

SCILLA and *ICARUS*, or *the Middle-way.*

MEDIOCRITY, or the *Middle way*, is most commended in Moral Actions; in Contemplative Sciences, not so celebrated; though no less profitable and commodious; but in Political Employments, to be used with great heed and judgment. The Ancients by the way, pre-

prescribed by *Icarus*, noted the Mediocrity of Manners; and by the way between *Scylla* and *Charibdis* (so famous for difficulty and danger,) the Mediocrity of intellectual Operations.

Icarus being to cross the Sea by flight, was commanded by his Father, that he should fly neither too high nor too low; for his Wings being joyned with Wax, if he should mount too high, it was to be feared lest the Wax would melt by the heat of the Sun; and if too low, lest misty Vapours of the Sea would make it less tenacious; but he, in a youthful jollity soaring too high, fell down headlong, and perished in the Water.

The Parable is easie and vulgar; for the way of Vertue lies in a direct path between excess & defect. Neither is it a wonder that *Icarus* perished by excess, seeing that excess for the most part, is the peculiar fault of Youth, as defect is of Age, and yet of two evil and hurtful ways, Youth commonly makes choice of the better, defect being always accounted worst; for whereas Excess contains some Sparks of Magnanimity, and, like a Bird, claims Kindred of the Heavens, Defect, only like a base Worm, crawls upon the Earth. Excellently therefore said *Heraclitus*, *Lumen siccum, optima Anima*; a dry light is the best Soul; for if the Soul contract Moisture from the Earth is become degenerate altogether. Again, on the other side, there must be moderation used, that this Light be subtiliz'd by this laudable Siccity, and not destroyed by too much

much fervency. And thus much every Man for the most part knows.

Now they that would sail between *Scylla* and *Charybdis* must be furnished, as well with the skill, as prosperous success in Navigation: for if their Ships fall into *Scylla* they are Split on the Rocks: if into *Charybdis* they are swallowed up of a Gulf.

The Moral of this Parable (which we will but briefly touch, although it contain matter of infinite Contemplation) seems to be this: That in every Art and Science, and so in their Rules and Axioms, there be a mean observed between the Rocks of Distinctions, and the Gulfs of Universalities; which two are famous for the Wrack both of Wits and Arts.

SPHINX, or Science.

THEY say that *Sphynx* was a Monster of divers forms, as having the Face and Voice of a Virgin, the Wings of a Bird, and the Talons of Gryphin. His abode was in a Mountain near the City of *Thebes*, he kept also the High-ways, and used to lie in Ambush for Travellers, and so to surprize them: To whom (being in his power) he propounded certain dark and intricate Riddles, which were thought to have been given and received of the Muses. Now if these miserable Captives were not able

instantly to resolve and interpret them in the midst of their difficulties and doubts, she would rend and tear them in pieces. The Countrey groaning a long time under this Calamity, the *Thebans* at last propounded the Kingdom as a reward unto him that could interpret the Riddles of *Sphynx*, there being no other way to destroy her: Whereupon, *Oedipus* (a Man of piercing, and deep Judgment, but Maimed and Lame, by reason of holes bored in his Feet,) moved with the hope of so great a Reward, accepted the condition, and determined to put it to the hazard; and so with an undaunted and bold Spirit, presented himself before the Monster; who asked him what Creature that was, which after his Birth, went first upon four Feet, next, upon two, then upon three, and lastly, upon four Feet again; answered forthwith, that it was Man; which in his Infancy, immediately after Birth, crawls upon all four, scarce venturing to creep, and not long after, stands upright upon two Feet; then growing old, he leans upon a Staff, wherewith he supports himself, so that he may seem to have three Feet; and at last, in decrepid years, his strength failing him, he falls groveling again upon four, and lies bed-rid. Having therefore by this true Answer gotten the Victory, he instantly slew this *Sphynx*, (and laying her Body upon an Ass,) leads it, as it were, in Triumph; and so (according to the condition,) was created King of the *Thebans*,

This

This Fable contains in it no less wisdom than elegancy, and it seems to point at Science, especially that which is joyned with practice, for Science may not absurdly be termed a Monster, as being by the ignorant and rude multitude always held in admiration. It is diverse in shape and figure, by reason of the infinite variety of Subjects, wherein it is conversant. A Maiden Face and Voice is attributed unto it for its gracious countenance and volubility of Tongue. Wings are added, because Sciences and their Inventions do pass and fly from one to another, as it were, in a moment, seeing that the communication of Science is as the kindling of one light at another. Elegantly also it is feigned to have sharp and hooked Talons, because the Axioms and Arguments of Science do so fasten upon the Mind, and so strongly apprehend and hold it, as that it stir not or evade, which is noted also by the Divine Philosopher, *Eccles.* 12. 11. *Verba sapientum* (saith he) *sunt tanquam aculei & veluti clavi in altum defixi.* The words of the wise are like Goads, and like Nails driven far in.

Moreover, all Science seems to be placed in steep and high Mountains; as being thought to be a lofty and high thing, looking down upon ignorance with a scornful Eye. It may be observed and seen also a great way, and far in compass, as things set on the tops of Mountains.

Furthermore, Science may well be feigned to beset the High-way, because which way soever we turn in this Progress and Pilgrimage of Hu-

mane Life, we meet with some matter or occasion offered for Contemplation.

Sphynx is said to have received from the Muses, divers difficult Questions and Riddles, and to propound them unto Men, which remaining with the Muses, are free (it may be) from savage cruelty; for so long as there is no other end of Study and Meditation, than to know, the Understanding is not racked and imprisoned, but enjoys Freedom and Liberty, and even doubts and variety, find a kind of pleasure and delectation: But when once these *Ænigmaes* are delivered by the Muses to *Sphynx*, that is, to practise, so that if it be sollicited and urged by Action, and Election, and Determination; then they begin to be troublesome and raging; and unless they be resolved and expedited, they do wonderfully torment and vex the minds of Men, distracting, and in a manner rending them into sundry parts.

Moreover, there is always a twofold condition propounded with *Sphynx* her *Ænigmaes*: To him that doth not expound them, distraction of mind; and to him that doth, a Kingdom; for he that knows that which he sought to know, hath attained the end he aimed at, and every Artificer also commands over his work.

Of *Sphynx* her Riddles, they are generally two kinds; some concerning the nature of things, others touching the nature of Man. So also there are two kinds of Empires, as rewards to those that resolve them. The one over Nature,

ture, the other over Men; for the proper and chief end of true Natural Philosophy is to command and sway over Natural Beings; as Bodies, Medicines, Mechanical Works, and infinite other things; although the School (being content with such things as are offered, and priding it self with Speeches) doth neglect realities and works, treading them as it were under foot. But that *Ænigma* propounded to *Oedipus* (by means of which he obtained the *Theban* Empire) belonged to the Nature of Man: For whosoever doth throughly consider the Nature of Man, may be in a manner the contriver of his own Fortune, and is born to command, which is well spoken of the *Romans* Arts:

Tu regere imperio populos, Romane *memento.*
Hæ tibi erunt Artes———

Roman remember, that with Scepters awe
Thy Realms thou rule. These Arts let be thy Law.

It was therefore very apposite, that *Augustus Cæsar* (whether by Premediation, or by a Chance) bare a *Sphynx* in his Signet: For he (if ever any) was famous not only in Political Government, but in all the course of his Life; he happily discovered many new *Ænigmaes* concerning the Nature of Man, which if he had not done with dexterity and promptness, he had often-times fain into imminent Danger and Destruction.

Moreover, It is added in the Fable, that the Body of *Sphynx*, when she was overcome, was laid upon an Ass; which indeed is an elegant Fiction, seeing there is nothing so acute and abstruse, but (being well understood, and divulged,) may be apprehended by a slow capacity.

Neither is it to be omitted, that *Sphynx* was overcome by a man lame in his Feet; for when Men are too swift of Foot, and too speedy of Pace, in hasting to *Sphynx* her *Ænigmaes*, it comes to pass, that (she getting the upper hand) their Wits and Minds are rather distracted by Disputations, than that ever they come to command by Works and Effects.

PROSERPINA, or Spirit.

PLUTO, they say, being made King of the Infernal Dominions, (by that memorable Division,) was in despair of ever attaining any one of the Superiour Goddesses in marriage, especially if he should venture to Court them, either with Words, or with any amorous Behaviour; so that of necessity he was to lay some Plot to get one of them by Rapine: Taking therefore the Benefit of Opportunity, he caught up *Proserpina* (the Daughter of *Ceres*, a beautiful Virgin,) as she was gathering *Narcissus-Flowers* in the Meadows of *Sicily*, and carried

carried her away with him in his Coach to the Subterranean Dominions; where she was welcomed with such Respect, as that she was stiled the Lady of *Dis*. But *Ceres*, her Mother, when, in no place she could find this her only beloved Daughter, in a sorrowful Humour, and distracted beyond measure, went compassing the whole Earth, with a burning Torch in her Hand, to seek, and recover this her lost Child. But when she saw that all was in vain, supposing peradventure, that she was carried to Hell, she importuned *Jupiter* with many Tears and Lamentations, that she might be restored unto her again; and at length, prevailed thus far, That if we had tasted of nothing in Hell, she should have leave to bring her from thence. Which Condition was as good as a Denial to her Petition, *Proserpina* having already eaten three Grains of a *Pomegranate*: And yet, for all this, *Ceres* gave not over her Suit, but fell to Prayers and Moans afresh: Wherefore, it was at last granted, that (the Year being divided,) *Proserpina* should by alternate Courses, remain one six Months with her Husband, and other six Months with her Mother. Not long after this, *Theseus*, and *Perithous*, in an overhardy Adventure, attempted to fetch her from *Pluto*'s Bed; who, being weary with Travel, and sitting down upon a Stone in Hell, to rest themselves, had not the Power to rise again; but sate there for ever. *Proserpina* therefore remained Queen of Hell, in whose Honour there

was this great privilege granted, That altho' it were enacted, that none that went down to Hell should have the power ever to return from thence; yet was this singular exception annexed to this Law, That if any presented *Proserpina* with a Golden Bough, it should be lawful for him to go and come at his pleasure. Now there was but one only such a Bough in a spacious and shady Grove, which was not a Plant neither of it self, but budded from a Tree of another kind, like a Rope of Gum, which being pluckt off, another would instantly spring out.

This Fable seems to pertain to Nature, and to dive into that rich and plentiful efficacy and variety of subalternal Creatures, from whom whatsoever we have is derived, and to them doth again return.

By *Proserpina*, the Ancients meant that Æthereal Spirit, which (being separated from the upper Globe) is shut up and detained under the Earth (represented by *Pluto*) which the Poet well expresst thus:

Sive recens tellus, seductaque nuper ab alto
Æthere, cognati retinebat semina cœli.

Whether the Youngling *Tellus* (that of late
Was from the high-rear'd *Æther* separate)
Did yet contain her Teeming Womb within
The living Seeds of Heaven, her nearest kin.

This

This Spirit is feigned to be rapted by the Earth, because nothing can with-hold it, when it hath time and leisure to escape. It is therefore caught and staid by a sudden contraction, no otherwise than if a Man should go about to mix Air with Water, which can be done by no means, but by a speedy and rapid Agitation, as may be seen in Froth, wherein the Air is rapted by the Water.

Neither is it elegantly added, that *Proserpina* was rapt as she was gathering *Narcissus* Flowers in the Valleys, because *Narcissus* hath his Name from slowness or stupidity: for indeed then is this Spirit most prepared and fitted to be snatcht by Terrestrial Matter, when it begins to be coagulated, and become as it were flown.

Rightly is *Proserpina* honoured more than any of the other God's Bed-fellows, in being stiled the Lady of *Dis*, because this Spirit doth rule and sway all things in those lower Regions, *Pluto* abiding stupid and ignorant.

This Spirit the power Celestial (shadowed by *Ceres*) strives, with infinite sedulity, to recover and get again: For that Brand or burning Torch of *Æther* (which *Ceres* carrried in her hand) doth doubtless signifie the Sun, which enlightneth the whole Circuit of the Earth, and would be of greatest moment to recover *Proserpina*, if possibly it might be.

But

But *Proserpina* abides still; the Reason of which is accurately, and excellently propounded in the Conditions between *Jupiter* and *Ceres*: For, first, it is most certain there are two Ways to keep Spirit in solid and terrestrial Matter; the one by Constipation and Obstruction, which is meer Imprisonment and Constraint; the other, by Administration, or proportionable Nutriment, which it receives willingly, and of its own accord: For after that the included Spirit begins to feed and nourish it self, it makes no haste to be gone; but is as it were, link'd to its Earth: And this is pointed at by *Proserpina* her eating of *Pomegranate*; which if she had not done, she had long since been recovered by *Ceres* with her Torch, compassing the Earth. Now as concerning that Spirit which is in Metals and Minerals, it is chiefly perchance restrained by the solidity of Mass: But that which is in Plants and Animals, inhabits a porous Body, and hath open Passage to be gone, in a manner, as it lists, were it not that it willingly abides of its own accord, by reason of the Relish it finds in its entertainment. The second Condition concerning the six Months Custom, it is no other than an elegant Description of the Division of the Year; seeing this Spirit mix'd with Earth, appears above Ground in Vegetable Bodies, during the Summer-Months, and in the Winter sinks down again.

Now

Now as concerning *Theseus* and *Perithous*, and their attempt to bring *Proserpina* quite away, the meaning of it is, that it oftentimes comes to pass, that some more subtil Spirits descending with divers Bodies to the Earth, never come to suck of any subalternal Spirit, whereby to unite it unto them, and so to bring it away. But on the contrary are coagulated themselves, and never rise more, that *Proserpina* should be by that means augmented with Inhabitants and Dominion.

All that we can say concerning that Sprig of Gold is hardly able to defend us from the violence of the *Chymicks*, if in this regard they set upon us, seeing they promise by that their *Elixir* to effect Golden Mountains, and the restoring of Natural Bodies, as it were, from the Portal of Hell. But concerning Chymistry, and those perpetual Suitors for that Philosophical *Elixir*, we know certainly that their *Theory* is without grounds, and we suspect that their Practice is also without certain reward. And therefore (omitting these) of this last part of the Parable, this is my Opinion, I am induced to believe by many Figures of the Ancients, that the conservation and restauration of natural Bodies, in some sort, was not esteemed by them as a thing impossible to be attained, but as a thing obstruse and full of Difficulties, and so they seem to intimate in this place, when they report that this one only Sprig was found among infinite other Trees in a huge and thick Wood, which

they

they feigned to be of Gold, becauſe Gold is the Badge of perpetuity, and to be artificially as it were inſerted, becauſe this effect is to be rather hoped for from Art, than from any Medicine, or ſimple or natural means.

METIS, or Counſel.

THE Ancient Poets report, that *Jupiter* took *Metis* to Wife, whoſe Name doth plainly ſignifie Counſel, and that ſhe by him conceived. Which when he found, not tarrying the time of her deliverance, devours both her and that which ſhe went withal, by which means *Jupiter* himſelf became with Child, and was delivered of a wondrous birth; for out of his head or brain came forth *Pallas* Armed.

The Senſe of this Fable (which at firſt apprehenſion may ſeem monſtrous and abſurd) contains in it a ſecret of State, to wit, with what policy Kings are wont to carry themſelves towards their Counſellors, whereby they may not only preſerve their Authority and Majeſty free and entire, but alſo that it may be the more extolled and dignified of the People: For Kings being as it were tied and coupled in a Nuptial bond to their Counſellors, do truly conceive that communicating with them about the affairs of greateſt importance, do yet detract nothing from their own Majeſty. But when

when any Matter comes to be censured or decreed (which is a birth) there do they confine and restrain the liberty of their Counsellors; lest that which is done should seem to be hatcht by their Wisdom and Judgment. So as at last Kings (except it be in such matters as are distastful and maligned, which they always will be sure to put off from themselves) do assume the honour and praise of all matters that are ruminated in Council, and, as it were, formed in the Womb, whereby the resolution and execution (which because it proceeds from power, and implies necessity, is elegantly shadowed under the Figure of *Pallas* Armed) shall seem to proceed wholly from themselves. Neither sufficeth it, that it is done by the Authority of the King, by his meer will and free applause, except withal, this be added and appropriated as to issue out of his own Head or Brain, intimating, that out of his own Judgment, Wisdom, and Ordinance, it was only invented and derived.

The SYRENS, or Pleaſures.

THE Fable of the *Syrens* ſeems rightly to have been applied to the pernicious allurements of Pleaſure, but in a very vulgar and groſs manner. And therefore to me it appears, that the Wiſdom of the Ancients have with a farther reach or inſight ſtrained deeper Matter out of them, not unlike the Grapes in preſs'd, from which, though ſome liquor is drawn, yet the beſt was left behind. Theſe *Syrens* are ſaid to be the Daughters of *Achelous* and *Terpſichore* one of the Muſes, who in their firſt being, were winged, but after raſhly entring into contention with the Muſes, were by them vanquiſhed, and deprived of their Wings. Of whoſe pluck'd out Feathers the Muſes made themſelves Coronets, ſo as ever ſince that time all the Muſes have attired themſelves with plumed heads, except *Terpſichore* only, that was Mother to the *Syrens*. The Habitation of the *Syrens* was in certain pleaſant Iſlands, from whence as ſoon as out of their Watch-Tower they diſcovered any Ships approaching, with their ſweet Tunes they would firſt entice and ſtay them, and having them in their Power would deſtroy them. Neither was their Song plain and ſingle, but conſiſting of ſuch variety of melodious Tunes ſo fitting and delight-

delighting the Ears that heard them, as that it raviſhed and betrayed all Paſſengers. And ſo great were the miſchiefs they did, that theſe Iſles of the *Syrens*, even as far off as Man can ken them, appeared all over white with the Bones of unburied Carcaſſes. For the remedying of this Miſery a double means was at laſt found out; the one by *Ulyſſes*, the other by *Orpheus*. *Ulyſſes* (to make experiment of his Device) cauſed all the Ears of his Company to be ſtopp'd with Wax, and made himſelf to be bound to the Main Maſt, with ſpecial Commandment to his Mariners not to be looſed, albeit himſelf ſhould require them ſo to do. But *Orpheus* neglected and diſdained to be ſo bound, with a ſhrill and ſweet Voice, ſinging Praiſes of the Gods to his Harp, ſuppreſs'd the Songs of the *Syrens*, and ſo free'd himſelf from their Danger.

This Fable hath relation to Men's Manners, and contains in it a manifeſt and moſt excellent Parable: For Pleaſures do for the moſt proceed out of the abundance and ſuperfluity of all things, and alſo out of the delights and jovial contentments of the Mind; the which are wont ſuddenly, as it were, with winged Inticements to raviſh and rap mortal Men: But Learning and Education brings it ſo to paſs, as that it reſtrains and bribles Man's Mind, making it ſo to conſider the ends and events of Things, as that it clips the Wings of Pleaſure. And this was greatly to the honour and renown of

the

the Muses; for after that by some Examples, it was made manifest, that by the power of Philosophy, vain Pleasures might grow contemptible; it presently grew to great esteem, as a thing that could raise, and elevate the Mind aloft, that seemed to be base, and fixed to the Earth, make the cogitations of the men (which do ever reside in the Head,) to be aethereal, and as it were winged. But that the Mother of the *Syrens* was left to her Feet, and without Wings; that no doubt is no otherwise meant, than of light and superficial Learning, appropriated and defined only to Pleasures, as were those which *Petronius* devoted himself unto, after he had received his final Sentence; and having his Foot, as it were, upon the Threshold of Death, sought to give himself all delightful Contentments; insomuch, as when he had caused Consolatory Letters to be sent him, he would peruse none of them, (as *Tacitus* reports; that should give him Courage and Constancy; but only read fantastical Verses, such as these are;

Vivamus, Mea Lesbia, atq; amemus;
Rumoresq; Senum severiorum,
Omnes unius aestimemus Assis.

My *Lesbia*, let us live and love;
Though wayward Dotards us reprove,
Weigh their Words light for our behove.

And

And this also:

Jura Senes norint, & quid sit fasq; nefasque,
Inquirant tristes, Legumq; examina servent.

Let doting Gransire know the Law,
And right and wrong observe with awe:
Let them in that strict Circle draw.

This kind of Doctrine would easily persuade to take these plumed Coronets from the Muses, and to restore the Wings again to the *Syrens*. These *Syrens* are said to dwell in remote Isles; for that Pleasures love Privacy, and retired Places, shunning always too much Company of People. The *Syrens* Songs are so vulgarly understood, together with the Deceits and Danger of them, as that they need no exposition. But that of the Bones appearing like white Cliffs, and descried afar off, hath more Acuteness in it; for thereby is signified, that, albeit the Examples of Afflictions be manifest, and eminent; yet do they not sufficiently deter us from the wicked Enticements of Pleasures.

As for the Remainder of this Parable, though it be not over-mystical, yet it is very grave, and excellent: For in it are set out three Remedies for this violent, enticing Mischief; to wit, Two from Philosophy, and One from Religion. The first Means to shun these inordi-

nate Pleasures is, to withstand, and resist them in their beginnings, and seriously to shun all occasions that are offered to debauch and entice the Mind, which is signified in that stopping of the Ears, and that Remedy is properly used by the meaner and baser sort of People, as it were, *Ulysses*'s Followers or Mariners; whereas more Heroick and Noble Spirits may boldly converse even in the midst of these inducing Pleasures, if with a resolved constancy they stand upon their Guard, and fortifie their Minds; and so take greater contentment in the trial and experience of this their approved Vertue; learning rather throughly to understand the Follies and Vanities of these Pleasures by Contemplation, than by Submission: Which, *Solomon* avouched of himself, when he reckoned up the multitude of those Solaces and Pleasures wherein he swam, doth conclude with this Sentence,

Sapientia quoque perseverabat mecum.

Wisdom also continued with me.

Therefore these *Heroes*, and Spirits of this excellent Temper, even in the midst of these enticing Pleasures, can shew themselves constant and invincible, and are able to support their own vertuous inclination, against all heady and forcible persuasions whatsoever; as by the example of *Ulysses*, that so peremptorily interdicted all pestilent Counsel, and Flatteries of his Companions, as the most dangerous and pernicious Poi-

sons

ſons to captivate the Mind. But of all other Remedies in this caſe, that of *Orpheus* is moſt predominant: For they that chaunt and reſound the praiſes of the Gods, confound and diſſipate the Voices and Incantations of the *Syrens*; for Divine Meditations do not only in power ſubdue all ſenſual pleaſures; but alſo far exceed them in ſwiftneſs and delight.

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